

DRESS CODE

The purpose of a dress code / uniform policy is not to inhibit any person's taste in attire but rather to better facilitate the process of education through reasonable guidelines in dress. The Old Forge School District has adopted the following dress code policy for grades K-12, which contains approved student clothing. This approved clothing is mandatory and may be worn in any combination of tops and bottoms.

Purpose

The purpose of school is to promote and foster a solid learning environment. Students are expected to dress in a manner which encourages this purpose. Violation of this policy will result in parental notification and appropriate school action.

General Information

- All students must attend school each day and comply with the school dress code policy.
- Approved clothing may be purchased at the store or vendor of the parent's choice, providing it conforms to this dress code policy.
- *Approved clothing is available from the following area merchants; Hoban's, Boscov's, Penney's, Career Uniform, Star Uniform, The Gap, K-Mart, Godfather's and Uniforms For All Sports.*
- The school dress code policy will be strictly enforced as per the discipline guidelines, which follow.
- The Old Forge School Board may amend this policy at any time and must approve all changes to this Dress Code Policy.
- Each student is expected to maintain good personal hygiene.
- Any clothing that is judged to be unsafe, unhealthy or unsanitary is not permitted.

Approved School Clothing

All clothing must be approved, solid colors, without designs, patterns, checks, slogans or emblems, except for optional Old Forge School District logo, brand name monogramming or embroidery. Shirts should be long enough to be tucked in. All school clothing must be appropriately sized for the student being no more than one regular size larger than the student actually measures. Clothing should also not be skin tight or clinging to the student's body. Shoes must be worn at all times, with laces tied. Any shoe that poses a safety hazard is not permitted.

Tops

Shirts

All shirts must have a collar. Golf style shirts, (long or short sleeve), and button down dress shirts (long or short sleeve) must be worn. ***Golf shirts may bear the optional Old Forge Logo on the shirt or brand name monogramming or embroidery.*** The colors may be white, navy blue or yellow / gold. The button down dress shirts must have a collar and may bear the Old Forge Logo or not. Shirts must be fully buttoned except for the top three buttons.

Any shirt that exposes the midriff is prohibited. If students wear a shirt underneath their golf or button down dress shirt, it must be a solid color T-shirt, either White, Yellow / Gold, or Navy Blue.

A solid white, yellow / gold or navy blue turtleneck may be worn under a sweater, golf shirt or button down shirt.

Sweaters

Crew neck and V-neck sweaters may be worn. ***A collared shirt or solid navy blue, yellow or white tee shirt must be worn underneath.*** The sweater must be solid white, navy blue or yellow / gold with or without the Old Forge embroidered logo.

Sweatshirts

Crew neck sweatshirts with or without the Old Forge embroidered logo may be worn. They must be a solid color of white, navy blue or yellow / gold. They cannot be ripped or torn around the neckline. The sweatshirts cannot be worn inside out. No hooded sweatshirts or zipper-up sweatshirts are allowed to be worn in the classroom or school during the day.

Bottoms

Pants

Khaki (Beige / Tan) and navy blue are the only acceptable colors that may be worn by students. Pants must be secured at the waist. Cargo pants, baggy / skateboard pants, extra wide extra full, military pants (fatigues), sweat pants, windpants, and jeans are not permitted. All pants must be a solid color. No pockets on the legs are permitted. The pants can be plain or pleated (Dockers style) ***or corduroy. Approved clothing is available from the following area merchants; Hoban's, Boscov's, Penney's, Career Uniform, Star Uniform, The Gap, K-Mart, Uniforms For All Sports and Godfather's.*** Display of any type of undergarment will result in an automatic In-School Suspension.

Skirts

Khaki (Beige/Tan), Navy Blue are the only acceptable colors that may be worn by students. Skirt length should range from the middle of the knee to the ankle. All skirts must be a solid color. K-6 students may also wear a solid navy blue or khaki one piece jumper.

Shorts

Khaki (Beige/Tan), Navy Blue are the only acceptable colors that may be worn by students. Short's length should be no less than 3 inches above the knee. All shorts must be a solid color without

cargo or any type of pocket on the legs. Shorts are only acceptable from April 1st – October 31st. This policy intends for shorts to adhere to the same requirements as pants. Therefore, shorts should be “dress shorts”, without pockets on the legs.

Shoes

Some style of shoe/sneaker must be worn at all times. Flip-flops and sandals are prohibited. Any footwear that poses a safety hazard is not permitted. Heeley’s are strictly prohibited. Refer to articles of non-compliance for further details.

Spirit Wear

Showing school pride through the wearing of spirit wear will be permitted on Fridays only. Students may wear District approved spirit shirts with the standard uniform policy bottoms. Hoodies, zip-up jackets and non-Old Forge School District related items are prohibited. Spirit wear must have appropriate screen printing / logos and reflect Old Forge School District clubs and or activities. Community based logos are not acceptable. Shirts may be any base color therefore; powder blue polo shirts will be acceptable on Fridays only.

Articles of Non-Compliance

- Any clothing or article deemed lewd, vulgar, indecent, plainly offensive, sexually suggestive, condoning violence, drug, alcohol, tobacco, suicide, vulgar language or if it is determined to have a well founded expectation to create disruption
- The display of any undergarments
- Shoes that have no backs, beach tongs, flip-flops or sandals
- No body piercing (earrings are acceptable)
- Shorts that are more than 3 inches above the knees
- No baggy, skateboard, spandex or stirrup pants
- No denim, denim-like material or jeans
- No spandex
- No sheer or see-through clothing
- No mini/micro skirts (no skirts more than 3 inches above the knee)
- No bare midriff
- No hats, caps, headbands, bandanas, hoods or jackets
- No chains, dog collars, or spiked bracelets or necklaces
- No off the shoulder garments
- No tank tops, tube tops, halter tops or sleeveless shirts
- Unnatural hair coloring
- Pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, capris worn below the waist
- Non-approved shirts/colors showing under approved clothing
- Extra full, extra wide, extra long, baggy or saggy pants or shorts

Transfer Students

Transfer students will be allowed ten (10) school days from the date of admission to be in compliance with the dress code policy.

NOTE: The above uniform policy / dress code may be amended at any time at the discretion of the Old Forge School Board and administration.

Discipline Guidelines for Uniform Policy Violations

All students will attend school in uniform. Any students arriving to school in violation of the mandated dress code policy will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

STUDENTS OUT OF DRESS CODE WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN ACCEPTABLE CLOTHING FROM THE EMERGENCY CLOTHING SUPPLY **IF AVAILABLE** OR FROM HOME WITHIN THE FIRST HOUR OF SCHOOL. DURING THIS TIME STUDENTS WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM CLASS.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN THE STUDENT BEING SENT HOME AND WILL BE CONSIDERED AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE.

A STUDENT WHOSE PARENTS REFUSE TO BRING A CHANGE OF CLOTHING OR TO REMOVE THE CHILD FROM SCHOOL DUE TO THE VIOLATION WILL BE SENT HOME VIA THE ATTENDANCE OFFICER OR THE OLD FORGE POLICE IF NECESSARY.

All removals due to dress code violations will be counted as an unexcused absence. The S.T.A.R.S. truancy program, developed through the Lackawanna County Court System, will be contracted regarding truancy. Non-compliance will be considered a violation of school policy. The consequences will be exclusion from school until the student is in compliance with the dress code policy. Student Absences due to this exclusionary process will be considered illegal or unexcused. After three days of illegal absences, both parents and student are subject to prosecution in the court system for the violation of the school attendance laws. The "S.T.A.R.S." Truancy Program developed through the Lackawanna County Court system will be contacted regarding truancy. The initial step in this process involves parents and child appearing before the district magistrate. In addition, all other disciplinary sanctions imposed by district policy will apply.

Subsidy

Families may qualify under certain income guidelines for clothing subsidy from a particular vendor. Please see the principal for further information.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Elementary School

Students may wear solid navy or yellow sweatpants with a navy or yellow Old Forge Blue Devil spirit wear t-shirt on gym day only. Solid navy or yellow gym shorts are acceptable from April 1st – October 31st only. All pants and shorts must be solid colors, without pockets, designs, stripes, patterns, checks, slogans or emblems except for optional Old Forge logo or emblem or small brand name emblems. Slogans or emblems (even Old Forge Blue Devil emblems) on the backside of sweatpants or shorts are prohibited.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

High School

Approved physical education clothing may be worn for physical education class only!

Shorts: Gym (Athletic) shorts only, i.e., nylon, elastic waistband (no pockets, no belt loops, no cargo pants, and no jean shorts). Length will be no shorter than arms length (length at fingertips). One solid color – no stripe anywhere on shorts (navy, yellow / gold, white). A small manufacturer's label or the Old Forge Logo is acceptable.

Sweatpants/Windpants: One solid color. Must be worn at waist. May not drag on floor. No tearaways. Same colors as shorts. A small manufacturer's label or the Old Forge Logo is acceptable.

Shirts: Tee shirts – Old Forge School District spirit wear, white, navy or yellow / gold tee shirt. Also, the school shirt - 3 button with collar, short or long sleeve – solid color (navy, yellow / gold, white). No tank tops, no midriiffs.

Sweatshirts: Solid colors (navy, yellow / gold, white). Old Forge Logo only. No hooded sweatshirts.

Display of any type of undergarment is prohibited. No articles of clothing may be altered or worn inside out. All clothing must be worn as designed. No rolling of shorts or sweatpants.