

August, 2020

Dear New Students and Parents,

As we plan for the beginning of school, we anticipate that you'll have some questions about the school culture, policies, etc. One of those questions may well involve the school's dress code. At McCallie we strive to give our students some flexibility while at the same time helping them maintain a sense of pride and decorum in their personal appearance. Below is the dress code for McCallie.

Dress Code and Personal Appearance

Students are to be well groomed and in proper school dress everywhere on campus throughout the school day. The school day begins when students leave their dorms or arrive on campus in the morning. The school day ends when students depart the academic area of campus and go to their afternoon activities.

Regular school dress requirements/prohibitions are as follows:

- Clothing should be in good repair with no rips, holes, or unfinished hemlines. The ensemble should be reasonably free of wrinkles.
- Traditional dress code requires that students wear a solid colored dress shirt with tie (which must be visible and within one inch of the top button), long pants (no jeans) with a visible belt, and shoes. **But please see below for some important, short term adjustments to this part of the code.**
- Students should tuck shirts in so that belts are visible. This includes the "Friday" shirt.
- Denim pants are not allowed.
- Caps, hats, hoods, etc. may not be worn inside buildings.
- Shoes should be leather and/or canvas of a reasonable color. Avoid bizarre or outlandish colors and styles.
- Sandals, open-toed or backless shoes, and military boots are not permitted.
- Clothing depicting alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or other objectionable material is prohibited.*
- Hair should be kept neat and clean, of a reasonable length, including out of the eyes, clearly off the collar, and not below the ears. No bizarre or trendy haircuts are allowed. No color treated hair allowed.*
- Sideburns should not extend below the ears.*
- Facial hair, earrings, and body piercings are not allowed. Students may not get tattoos while enrolled at McCallie. Tattoos acquired prior to enrollment are never to be displayed.*

* -- These asterisked items apply to students even beyond the school day's end; students must abide by them at events on campus and at McCallie related events off campus (e.g. dances, games where McCallie is playing, McCallie trips, performances, etc.)

COVID Dress Code adjustments:

We have modified the dress code slightly while we are adjusting to coronavirus protocols. When we stop wearing masks, we expect to return to our traditional dress code. For the time being, boys will not wear a necktie to school. They must wear a dress shirt (the typical button down or a polo style dress shirt - a golf shirt if you will). They should plan to wear these shirts Monday-Friday.

A few details about shirts:

- The shirt may have a logo (Vineyard Vines, Southern Tides, Onward Reserve, etc).
- Button down shirts may be short sleeved as well as long sleeved.
- The shirts may have stripes, or subtle, classy plaids.

--**Shirts that don't work** include Hawaiian shirts, shirts with crazy patterns, shirts with really big logos, shirts that have a political bent, etc).

This should give you some guidelines when purchasing school clothes for the fall. If you should have questions about any part of the dress code, please feel free to contact our office at (423) 493-5566, or by email at awills@mccallie.org.

We look forward to seeing you in August!

Sincerely,

Henry L. Hopping
Upper School Principal