

Dress Standards

The Shady Side Academy dress code upholds standards of dress that reflect the fundamental purpose and ethos of the Academy. The dress code establishes an environment conducive to the enterprise of learning while allowing for individual self-expression bound by the Shady Side's Guiding Principles of honesty, kindness, responsibility, respect, and safety.

Enforcement

It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with the dress code and to adhere to it on a daily basis. The final arbiter(s) of appropriate dress are the form deans and the dean of student and residential life.

Students who are not dressed within the Academy guidelines are sent to the Deans' Office. The consequences for dress code violations are as follows:

- **First offense:** Warning from dean, offense recorded.
- **Second offense:** Afternoon detention (held daily as needed, 3:05-3:50 p.m.)
- **Third offense:** Morning detention (Thursdays, 7:30-8 a.m.)
- **Fourth offense:** Student will be referred to the dean of student and residential life for failing to meet community standards and should expect a serious disciplinary response such as disciplinary warning, or ultimately, an appearance before the Discipline Committee.

Dress Standards

The Academy has four different dress codes (daily, formal, SSA spirit and dress down), each reflecting the nature of the particular endeavor. In general, students' clothing and general appearance should allow for full and comfortable participation in all school activities and a full range of motion - including bending, sitting and walking up stairs - without the need for frequent readjustment.

Daily Dress

- Dress or casual pants, shorts/skorts/skirts, jumpsuits, rompers and dresses.
- Dresses: Sleeveless dresses are allowed, but dresses with spaghetti straps must be worn under a cardigan, blazer or other appropriate outerwear.
- Leggings are allowed but must be a solid color (no mesh, sheer, colors, patterns or text) and may only be worn under a skirt or dress.
- Shirts: Polos, collared shirts (properly buttoned in front) and tailored shirts that do not resemble T-shirts (*see prohibited items list below*)
 - Henley shirts are allowed.
 - Turtlenecks are allowed.
 - Hoods or lapels on a jacket do not constitute collars.
 - A collarless shirt may be worn underneath a crewneck or quarter-zip sweater.
 - "Cold-shoulder" or open-shoulder tops are allowed. Shirts with spaghetti straps are allowed, but only when worn under a cardigan, blazer or other appropriate outerwear.
 - Non-collared shirts with an SSA logo are not allowed unless underneath a crewneck or quarter-zip sweater.
- Outerwear: Crew-neck sweaters or quarter-zip sweaters (fleece or heavy cotton) are allowed. No hooded or crew-neck sweatshirts of any kind (SSA sweatshirts included) may be worn.
 - Seniors may wear college sweatshirts (not shirts) only in Term III.
- Shoes must be closed-toe, fully laced and in good repair. Sneakers are allowed.
- Hats must be removed upon entry to any school building.

Formal Dress

Certain days throughout the year are designated as formal dress days (Convocation, Athletic Awards, Awards Day, Commencement, etc.). In an effort to honor our fellow students or an outside performance or speaker, dress clothes should be worn throughout the entire day, from 8:15 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Navy blue blazer.
- White collared dress shirt with tie or women's dress shirt with sleeves.
- Khaki dress pants or khaki dress skirt.
- White dresses may be worn in lieu of khaki dress pants and skirts.
- Shoes in good repair (dress shoes, sneakers, athletic shoes).

SSA Spirit Dress

SSA Spirit Dress days occur twice a month throughout the school year (normally on Fridays). On these days, students are permitted to wear clothing that reflects school spirit and pride during the school day.

- SSA apparel (shirts, shorts, sweatpants, sweatshirts, etc.) is appropriate and encouraged on these days.
- Leggings and jeans may be worn.
- If not wearing SSA apparel, students must meet daily dress standards.

SSA athletic teams and groups (i.e., theatre productions) may request to wear their uniforms (if appropriate) or some form of team wear on the day of a significant contest or in anticipation of an opening event. If the team apparel does not meet Daily Dress standards, the coach or captain must make a request to the dean of student and residential life by noon of the preceding day. Approved requests will be communicated to the team by the coach or captain. Student-athletes who dress down without permission will face dress code violation consequences and will risk having this privilege removed for their entire team. This is an occasional and not a regular privilege.

Dress-Down Days

If a Dress-Down Day is declared by the president, head of school or dean of student and residential life, jeans and T-shirts in good repair are appropriate. Proper footwear is expected (no flip-flops) and the general guidelines of neat, clean, appropriately fitted and sized clothing are in effect. Students who choose not to follow the Dress-Down Day guidelines must follow the daily dress code or be subject to typical dress code violation consequences.

Distance Learning Dress

If students attend school online (due to personal circumstances or a schoolwide move to distance learning), the expectation is that students and faculty will continue to meet the dress code as outlined above. Distance learning does not mean a shift to "dress down days". Rather, at a minimum, students should appear online in a shirt that meets the Academy's "Daily Dress" requirements. Hooded sweatshirts should not be worn, unless worn as part of an SSA Spirit Dress day.

Prohibited

The following are not allowed:

- Flip flops, slippers, athletic slides, open-toed shoes, shoes in poor repair.
- Exposed undergarments or midriffs.
- Frayed, torn, patched, ripped, sheer, distressed, ill-fitting clothes.
- Clothing with profanity or references to drugs or alcohol.
- Visible tattoos, tongue piercings, body piercing (other than modest piercings).
- Camouflage clothing.
- T-shirts worn over collared shirts.
- Blue denim pants, skirts, shorts (denim jackets of any color are permitted).
- Leggings are prohibited as standalone pants. They may be worn only under a skirt or dress except on SSA Spirit Days or Dress Down Days when athletic wear is permitted.
- Spaghetti straps, strapless, off-the-shoulder tops and dresses (unless worn under a cardigan, blazer, or other appropriate outerwear).
- Athletic clothing, including sweatshirts, leggings, pants, sweatpants, soccer pants or joggers (unless permitted for a SSA Spirit Day, team event or Dress Down Day).
- Shirts of any kind with graphics, brand names, or logos larger than 3" (unless permitted for a SSA Spirit Day or Dress Down Day).