

# CHALLENGE CHARTER SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

The CCS community is a true family where every member must feel safe and relevant to reach their full potential. Also, each member must be accountable to pursuit of the larger mission and membership. The school Uniform Policy serves as a unifying factor within this school family and is a visible representation of our pride and unity to the larger community. Uniforms identify those wearing them as a part of a distinctive group with a purpose, representing their individual pride for that group and its' purpose reminding the wearer of their own responsibility and accountability within that group.

Another benefit of the school uniform is that it helps ensure that a first class education remains the focus and priority in the classroom. It removes social barriers, and distractions from faddish trends in the classroom environment. Uniforms help to unite all learners in a classroom and engage them in the intended purpose...the joy of learning!

Shortly after CCS was founded, parents requested that a Uniform Policy be established to further unify this learning community. A group of parents then worked together to select the large variety of available and permitted styles and colors representing the patriotism of this school and school community displaying our red, white, and blue.

Students must be in proper school uniform at all times to be on campus during the school day. All uniform clothing should be clean, neat, not too worn, and in proper fitting condition. Please carefully review all of the enclosed uniform information and also each year's Dennis Uniform catalogue. Most uniform items must be purchased at Dennis School Uniform. Some items may be purchased elsewhere; please review the policy guidelines to determine which items must be purchased at Dennis and which can be purchased elsewhere. You can also ask in the front office if you are ever unsure or need financial assistance to purchase the required uniforms.

Please see the Policy Addendum for the steps that are followed if a student is not in proper uniform. A student who arrives at school completely out of uniform will not be allowed to attend class. Any violation deemed inappropriate for school by the school officials will also require immediate removal from school and a parent will have to bring appropriate clothes or remove their child from campus.

It is vital for students and their families to embrace and commit to the Uniform Policy in a positive and supportive manner. If there is ever question of an item's acceptability, please do not hesitate to check with the office staff prior to purchase or prior to wearing it at school. Parents must demonstrate their own commitment to the value of this policy for their children to get the full intended benefit.

CCS believes that a student's individuality is a very important part of their confidence and happiness. While school uniforms are unifying, individuality should still be held in high regard and is at CCS and sharing interests and differences serves to further unite our students. Therefore, CCS allows for personal expression of favorites, colors, hobbies, etc. on several items that are often limited at other uniform schools. These include backpacks, shoes, lunch boxes, and small accessories. These designs must be school appropriate as defined by Administration.



# UNIFORMS

## CCS Dress Code Policy

Challenge Charter School strictly enforces our Dress Code Policy. The appropriateness of apparel & accessories is at the discretion of CCS Administration. If you are unsure if an item is appropriate, please have it approved in advance since inappropriate &/or distracting items may be confiscated and are not allowed. The school staff may and will send students home who are in violation of the school uniform policy as it is defined & enforced by Administration.

**ALL UNIFORM CLOTHING (EXCEPT WHERE NOTED)  
MUST BE PURCHASED FROM DENNIS UNIFORM CO.**

**PLEASE REFER TO THE DENNIS UNIFORM /  
CHALLENGE CHARTER SCHOOL CATALOG FOR  
APPROVED STYLES AND SELECTIONS, AND WHEN  
MAKING ALL OF YOUR UNIFORM PURCHASES.**

**Dennis offers four Convenient Ways to Shop:**

- Dennis store – Located at 3645 E. Indian School Road Suite #1 Phoenix, AZ 85018 (602) 220-0302
- Online @ [www.dennisuniform.com](http://www.dennisuniform.com); Enter “Challenge Charter School” or school code QGB, and our school’s unique uniform information will appear
- By phone – 1.800.854.6951 (Dennis – National Customer Service)
- Mail or fax order form from Challenge Charter School Catalog to: Dennis Uniform, 135 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon 97214; 1.877.291.548

# **IMPORTANT UNIFORM GUIDELINES FOR ALL STUDENTS:**

- **BAGGY CLOTHING IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!**
  - All school clothing must be **no more than one size larger than the student!**
  - Uniforms/jackets that are too large are not safe on our play equipment!
- Shorts and skirts cannot be longer than the knee and must not be higher than 3 inches above the knee.
- **FIELD TRIP DAYS:** All students going on a field trip **must** wear a red top with a blue or plaid bottom (any of the approved styles.) Only the current school years Eagle Pride T-shirts will be acceptable as an approved field trip red shirt.
- CCS "Eagle Pride" T-shirts (sold at CCS only) may be worn with approved uniform Dennis uniform bottoms on Fridays only. Only the current year's style may be worn during that school year on Fridays.
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade CCS Academy students may also wear the approved "Blue Ribbon" polo in Navy & Hunter Green (sold at CCS only) with approved Dennis Uniform bottoms.
- No Undergarments may show.
  - Undershirts **MUST** match the polo being worn or be white. No long-sleeved undershirts allowed.
- 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders must have their shirt tucked in at all times
  - Oxford shirts / uniform blouses must be tucked in for all grades (only exception: Dennis uniform girls' ¾ length sleeve overblouse).
- When girls are wearing uniform jumpers, skirts or dresses they **MUST** wear either the appropriate tights OR red, navy blue, or black spandex shorts underneath!
  - Tights must be white or they may match shirt being worn.
- Challenge does not celebrate Halloween. No costumes, colored hair, socks, etc.
- Teachers may make adjustments in uniform appearance (remove jackets, accessories, etc.) to assist students with compliance and for special school events. Students not in proper uniform will not be able to participate or perform in the SOM assemblies/special school events. Students not in appropriate footwear will not be allowed to participate in PE, recess, or any activity that endangers them.
- A staff member will confiscate &/or remove any accessory or personal item that becomes a distraction in the classroom.
- ANY/ALL designs on accessories must be school appropriate **as defined by CCS Administration.**
- Skull and crossbones are not an acceptable school design.
- Clothing worn on non-uniform days, such as Fall & Spring Picture Day, "dress-down" days, or theme days must still be *school appropriate*: No bare midriffs, no tank tops, no bottoms more than 3 inches above the knee, no profanity or inappropriate designs on clothing, and not more than one size larger than the student.
  - Theme days will be periodically announced. Theme days provide students with an opportunity to dress up for a selected "Theme."
  - Non-uniform days will be periodically allowed for various reasons.
  - Fall & Spring Picture Day is a dress up day NOT a "free day."
  - Students not participating in theme days or not having their picture taken must wear their uniforms.
  - Shoes are not visible in either spring or fall photos. Please ensure that students wear a uniform approved safe shoe.
- Group class pictures **WILL** be in uniforms. (These are taken on a separate day from the individual portraits.)
- Expensive and/or excessive jewelry and accessories are not acceptable at school. (No large chains, bangles, etc.) Necklaces must be tucked under shirts. The school does not accept any responsibility for jewelry (or other personal items brought to school) and may confiscate it if it becomes a distraction.
- All hairstyles should be moderate, clean, combed, and away from the student's eyes for both boys and girls. Only natural hair and color will be permitted. Hair must be well kept for all students. Mohawks/"faux"hawks and similar, extreme styles that distract from learning are not permitted.
- Clothing cannot be excessively faded nor have holes. Patches need to be the color of the pants.
- Pants must be hemmed not rolled for safety reasons.
- No matter the grade level, in case of accidents it is recommended that parents send one complete set of clothing (marked with student's name) to be kept in the classroom or their child's backpack.
  - To get full wear/use out of uniform purchases, remember to rotate the clothing you have sent in for this purpose. Don't forget to change it out every few weeks so it won't go unworn during the year.
  - If your child has a need to change his/her clothes due to accident (including but not limited to: bloody nose, falling/slipping in mud/wet playground, urination or defecation, menstrual, vomiting) and does not have an extra set of clothes on campus you will be called to pick up your child or to bring a new change of clothing to school.
  - A student who has any type of accident that requires a change of clothing will not be permitted to return to class until their clothing has been changed.

# **Socks, tights, shoes, winter wear, and accessories are available at Dennis for your shopping convenience; however they may be purchased elsewhere as long as they meet the following guidelines:**

## **SOCKS:**

- Socks or tights must be worn at all times and must be visible above any uniform shoe.
- Socks & tights **MUST** be plain – NO designs or logos!
- The color of socks and/or tights must be white or they may match the shirt being worn. For example: red socks and/or tights with a red shirt, navy socks and/or tights with a navy shirt, etc.
- If there is lace on a sock, it must be the same color as the socks themselves or Marymount Plaid.

## **SHOES:**

- Safety is the first consideration for appropriate footwear.
- Closed toed and heel shoes only (appropriate for P.E. and play time). All shoes worn must completely secure the child's foot within them safely. They must have a thick enough sole to protect the foot (i.e: "Tom" style not allowed.)
- All logos/designs on shoes must be school appropriate as defined by CCS Administration.
- NO heels, wheels nor platforms, sandals, CROCS, or jelly shoes of any kind and NO dress shoes.
- Boots are O.K. ONLY if they lace up (six holes or less/no high-tops), and are appropriate for P.E. or playground, such as hiking & indoor/outdoor boots. NO fashion boots with zippers, heels, etc.
- Fat shoelaces are not allowed. Shoelaces must always be tied tightly, not tucked!
- Any shoe with a slick bottom or that does not secure the child's foot is unsafe for the playground and is not accepted.
- Students in inappropriate shoes will be excluded from P.E., recess, & other physical activities for their own safety.

## **WINTER WEAR:**

### ***Inside the classroom:***

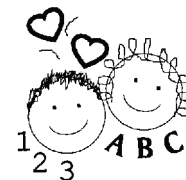
- Sweaters and PLAIN sweatshirts may be worn over a uniform shirt with collar out. They must be solid in color and be White, Red or Navy Blue. As with all uniform clothing, they may NOT be more than one size larger than the student. Solid, uniform colored (white, red, or navy blue) Cardigan style sweaters are okay over a uniform shirt.

### ***Outside the classroom:***

- As the weather dictates ANY style of coat or jacket may be worn for recess, P.E., etc, not in assemblies or the classroom. As with all uniform clothing, they may NOT be more than one size larger than the student and all logos/designs must be school appropriate as defined by CCS Administration.

## **Accessories:**

- Belts are NOT mandatory for any grade. If they are worn, they must be plain and should be black or brown. Also, a plain blue belt may be worn with blue bottoms and a plain khaki belt may be worn with khaki bottoms. Belts cannot have studs, holes, ornate buckles, logos, initials, etc. No chains on belts or wallets.
- No HATS, CAPS, and/or SUNGLASSES may be worn in the classroom at any time. Hats, caps, and/or sunglasses may be worn when students are outside of the classroom i.e. at recess or on an outdoor field trip, not during assemblies.
- Bandanas (including hair bandanas) are not allowed on campus.
- No tattoos or body artwork of any kind. (even temp. ones must be covered)
- No body piercings! The only exception is the lower ear lobe for use of earrings. All earrings must be studs or very small hoops that hug the earlobe. This eliminates the potential of physical injury while at school.
- Makeup is not an allowable accessory.
- Fake fingernails are dangerous on the playground and not allowed at school.
- Large or distracting girls' hair accessories are not appropriate for school. Some guidelines to help in selecting school appropriate hair accessories: only those that are designed and serve the purpose of securing the hair in place should be worn and they should not be larger than the palm of the student wearing them. Also, those that match the colors of the school uniform are preferred.



## Challenge Charter School

### POLICY ADDENDUM UNIFORM POLICY

#### ENFORCEMENT\*:

1. Teachers will inspect uniforms daily during the time they take attendance and throughout the day.
2. On the first offense a warning will be sent home for parental signature, after it has been sent to the office for charting. A copy of the policy is provided if needed.
3. The second offense is written up as a violation and a copy is sent to the office for charting. Depending on the violation, parents may be called and asked to bring a corrected uniform to school.
4. When a third offense occurs, the student may be considered in Defiance of Authority and a Conduct Referral may be processed through the Principal's Office depending on the nature of the violation.
5. On the fourth offense, parents will be contacted for a needed resolution and the student will not be permitted to remain out of uniform on campus. A parent may be contacted to pick up the student.

*\*Please contact the front office for assistance if financial hardship is preventing your family from purchasing needed school uniform items.*