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 policy.

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.

The enforcement of this policy in its entirety is at the discretion of the CCS Administration. Students can be removed from the classroom at any time if found to be out of uniform.

UNIFORMS
CCS Dress Code Policy

Please refer to this policy when making all Uniform purchases and decisions.

The school's official School Uniform Vendor is: French Toast Unforms and our school store can be found at: https://www.frenchtoast.com/schoolbox/schools/challenge-charter-school-QS46JYU

Just because an item is purchased at the school's online uniform store does not make it compliant. It must meet these policy requirements:

IMPORTANT UNIFORM GUIDELINES FOR ALL STUDENTS:

- All items purchased in the Challenge Charter School French Toast store are acceptable. Check back often for sale prices and also seasonal items.
- The Challenge Charter School spirit Eagle Pride t-shirts (sold by the school) may also be worn each day with any approved uniform bottom.
- All prior Dennis Uniform policy clothing is allowed until it has worn out or no longer meets the other policy requirements of length and fit.
- **Jeans are also a part of the CCS Uniform Policy.** They are not sold at French Toast and can be purchased anywhere. Jeans must meet these requirements:
    - Plain, blue denim. Jeans with fading, designs, holes, embellishments, frayed edges, or rips are not allowed.
- No logos or emblems, except the CCS logo, are allowed on any uniform clothing.
- All uniform clothing must be no more than one size larger or smaller than the student.
- FIELD TRIP DAYS: All students going on a field trip **must** wear a red top with an approved bottom.
- Trendy and non-uniform styles are not allowed, including but not limited to: cargo and other outer pockets, baggy clothing, overalls, bell or fringe bottoms, capri pants.
- No Undergarments may show. 4th-6th graders must have their shirt tucked in at all times.
- Elastic top uniform pants and uniform pleated belt loop pants/shorts only. Side & back standard (inner, slit opening) pockets only. Uniform pants/shorts do not have any outer stitched pockets or logos.
- Pants must be hemmed not rolled for safety reasons.
- Please NO holes, patches need to be the color of the pants.
- No uniform bottom can be longer than the knee or more than 3 inches above the knee.

SOCKS & FOOTWEAR:

- Socks or tights must be worn at all times visible above any uniform shoe and be plain with 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 school colors.
- 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 bottom of the foot.
- All logos/designs on shoes must be school appropriate as defined by CCS Administration.
- NO heels, wheels nor platforms, sandals, CROCS, TOMs, or jelly shoes of any kind and no dress shoes.

- Boots are allowed 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.
- Shoelaces must always be tied tightly to secure the foot, 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., and while outside, 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.

Hairstyles & 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 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 temporary ones must be covered) Exception for religious expression.
- 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/gel/extra-long or altered fingernails are dangerous on the playground and not allowed at school.
- Large or distracting girls' hair accessories are not appropriate for school. 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 hand of the student wearing them. Also, those that match the colors of the school uniform are preferred.
- 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. Extreme styles that distract from learning are prohibited.

Non-Uniform Days: "Theme" and Picture Days:

- Clothing worn on non-uniform days, such as Fall & Spring Picture Day, "non-uniform" 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 or smaller 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.)
- Challenge does not celebrate Halloween. No costumes, colored hair, socks, etc.

IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL UNFORM POLICY GUIDELINES/REMINDERS/CONSIDERATIONS:

- 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/materials/clothes must be school appropriate ***as defined by CCS Administration***.
- Clothing cannot be excessively faded nor have holes. Patches need to be the color of the pants.
- No matter the grade level, in case of any type of accident 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.
    - 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.