



Tanglewood Middle School
An International Baccalaureate World School
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DRESS CODE POLICY

All students attending Tanglewood Middle School will be required to follow the Tanglewood Dress Code Policy. All articles of the uniform are to be maintained and worn in a way that represents the individual students and the school in a positive way.

All clothing must be:

- Solid colored, without variations or patterns.
- Clean, neat, mended — no rips, holes, cuts, etc., that extend through the fabric.
- Properly fitted. Clothing should be neither skin-tight nor excessively baggy.
- Without ornamentation (words, pictures, logos, etc.) other than official Tanglewood items.

“Tops” (clothing above the waist):

- *Colors for all kinds of tops: **white or navy blue**.* Please check with the school for a color sample if there is any question.
- *Fabrics:* Cotton or cotton blend.
- Must wear a **polo style shirt** or **oxford button-down shirt**, long- or short-sleeved with a collar.
- The shirt must be buttoned within one button of the top of the shirt.
- Tanglewood logos and any other logos one-inch square (or smaller) will be permitted.
- Undershirts may be worn, and they may be visible (must be **white or navy blue**).
- Turtleneck and long-sleeved shirts (must be **white or navy blue**) may be worn under the uniform shirt as long as the shirt is tucked in.
- Any sweatshirt purchased in the school store and any official team or club sweatshirt may be worn.
- Other sweatshirts (fleece material) may be worn if they are crewneck or hooded and if they are **white or navy blue**. Hoods must always be down within the Tanglewood campus perimeter.

“Bottoms” (clothing below the waist):

- *Colors:* **Navy blue, khaki, or blue-jean blue.**
- *Fabrics:* Denim, twill, or corduroy.
- May be pants, skirts, shorts, skorts, capris, or jumpers.
- Must be **fitted at the waistline** (except jumpers).
- Sweatpants and leggings are not allowed.
- The shortest part must be at least as long as the top of the kneecap, so that when standing, the garment touches the kneecap. A slit in a skirt can be no higher than the kneecap. The hem cannot touch the floor when standing.

Free Dress Days (same dress code, except):

- May wear any colors.
- May have any ornamentation which is not disruptive or offensive.
- A polo or oxford shirt is not required, but a shirt with sleeves must be worn.
- Additional criteria may be announced for special days.

Ceremonies:

- Everyone should be dressed nicely and respectfully.
- Boys should wear dress pants and a dress shirt. Jackets and ties are optional.
- Girls may wear a dress, a skirt and blouse, or a nice pants outfit. Skirts should be long enough to touch the kneecap, and the top of any slit should be no higher than the knee. If the top is sleeveless, the shoulder straps should be **at least two inches wide at the narrowest point**. No midriffs or backs should be exposed. No spaghetti straps or strapless. No low-cut dresses or blouses will be allowed.
- Students should be well-groomed.
- No shorts or flip-flop type sandals are allowed for any students.
- Girls may wear make-up and high-heeled shoes.
- Students who do not conform to the dress code will be allowed to view the ceremony but **will not be allowed to participate**.

Specific Rules of Dress and Grooming:

- *Field Trips:* Free dress day attire is not permitted for students attending a field trip. Students must wear the regular dress code attire, even if the trip is on a free dress day.
- Shoes must be closed-in and have a rubber-like sole. The thickness of the heel and /or sole may not be more than one inch.
- Earrings may be worn if they are not larger than a quarter.

- When Tanglewood team uniforms are permitted to be worn during the school day, they must be worn in a way that meets dress code coverage guidelines — sleeves, length, etc.
- Coats that are not dress code colors may be worn to school on extremely cold days (temperature below 50 °F) with prior administrative approval.
- No hats or head-covering other than those required by religious practice. Hoods must stay down while in the Tanglewood perimeter.
- No makeup is allowed.
- Jewelry is permissible, unless it is distracting or disruptive in the classroom. All acceptable neckwear (necklaces) must be tucked inside the uniform shirt.
- Small storage bags for supplies and necessary items may be brought into the classroom or placed in the backpack or book bag. Purses are not allowed.
- Exposed tattoos and/or use of pens or pencils to make marks on the skin or clothing are inappropriate for school and expressly prohibited.
- Personal grooming is restricted to restroom facilities.
- Students are required to wear the uniform dress to the campus and throughout the entire day until after leaving school. Changes in the restroom prior to leaving school are not allowed.

Tanglewood administration reserves the right to determine if a student's dress is a disruption to the educational process. All such decisions are final.

PE UNIFORMS: Uniforms will be available for purchase from the PE teachers or school store. Students must wear the official TMS PE uniform during PE classes. The PE uniform is ***only*** to be worn during PE class, and ***not*** throughout the school day. During cold weather, students may bring sweat pants to wear over their PE uniform.

CONSEQUENCES FOR DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS: Failure to comply with the uniform dress code will result in disciplinary action (a Level II infraction in the HISD Student Code of Conduct). *The consequences for not meeting the expectations are as follows:*

- **First Offense:** Note to discipline record, review of policy, and phone contact with the parent. The parent will be required to bring appropriate garments.
- **Second Offense:** Same as above, plus the student will follow the Tanglewood Restorative Practice Process.