

Middle School Dress Code

The Middle School intends to have a reasonable and appropriate dress code for student safety and well-being. Our dress reflects McDonogh's focus on the academic environment and encourages students to dress in a manner that demonstrates situational awareness and respect for our McDonogh community.

There are three types of dress codes in the Middle School: regular dress, special dress, and casual dress. Regular dress applies to every on-campus school day unless teachers and the Administration say otherwise. Designated special dress and casual dress days will be communicated in advance. The guidelines below outline student dress and grooming expectations during the academic day (8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.). All students are expected to arrive at school dressed appropriately and to remain so throughout the day. Students are expected to respect the spirit of the dress code, not simply the letter of the code.

REGULAR DRESS

TOPS

- Polo shirts with the McDonogh logo, short- or long-sleeved, in white, grey, orange, or black. Shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- White or light blue Oxford shirt with collar, tucked in at all times.
- Second Layer Tops: McDonogh branded black, grey, orange, or white long-sleeved sweatshirt, jacket, quarter-zip, sweater, or vest. Hoods may not be worn indoors during the academic day. Jackets or coats must be removed while indoors during the academic day. Tops may not exceed the length of skorts.

BOTTOMS

- Dress cotton twill pants in khaki, black, or stone. Jean, bell-bottom, jegging, or cargo styles are not permitted.
- Cotton twill khaki or stone skorts or belted shorts. Skorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh in the front and back when standing upright. Shorts must be Bermuda-length. Skirts are not permitted.

ACCESSORIES

- School-issued student identification cards must be worn at all times.
- Belts must be worn anytime belt loops are present.
- Socks must be worn and visible from the shoe line.

- Black leggings or tights are permitted under skorts.
- Closed-toe and closed-back shoes are required. Shoes must be worn properly with laces tied. Predominantly solid color (white, black, dark blue, or grey) footwear is permitted. Black, brown, or tan leather-like closed-toe and closed-back shoes are permitted. Heels taller than one inch and patterned shoes are not permitted.

SPECIAL DRESS

- Navy blue blazer with McDonogh seal appropriately sewn on or attached with fabric glue.
- White or light blue Oxford shirt with collar, tucked in at all times.
- Twill khaki or stone skort or dress pants with belt. Skorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh in the front and back when standing upright.
- Leather-like black, brown, or tan dress shoes (no boots).
- Solid black or white socks.
- McDonogh tie is required for students who wear pants on Special Dress occasions.

CASUAL DRESS

- All clothing must be within the guidelines of the Honor Code. Clothing must be free of offensive or profane words or symbols and any prohibited items (i.e., guns, drugs, alcohol, etc.).
- Clothing may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
- Clothing must sufficiently cover the body and all undergarments from the top of the shoulder (sleeves or straps of no less than the width of two fingers required) to mid-thigh at all times.
- No backless shoes or flip-flops are permitted.

GUIDELINES FOR ALL:

- **Hair:** Hair is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed. Hair dyed to colors other than those found in the natural spectrum of human hair is not permitted. Facial hair is not permitted.
- **Headwear:** Headwear worn for medical reasons and religious observance is permissible but must be worn in a way that doesn't interfere with direct eye contact. All other head coverings (i.e., hats, skull caps, scarves, etc.) cannot be worn in the building at any time.
- **Jewelry:** Visible body piercing other than the ears is prohibited. Earrings may be no larger than 7-8 mm in diameter and ½ inch in length.

Students whose dress is inappropriate for school may receive a disciplinary consequence and may be required to change clothing for the day. We understand that some students have cultural or religious

values that may not align with our dress code. Those students are encouraged to discuss proposed alternatives with the Director of Equity and Inclusion.

The Middle School reserves the right to revise the dress code at any time during the school year and to prohibit any clothing or grooming style that the Administration determines may pose a health or safety hazard or cause disruption of, distraction from, or interference with general school operations.

We ask that parents/guardians support the school with regard to the students’ adherence to the dress code. The guidelines above outline our expectations for student dress and grooming regarding common situations but cannot cover every style of dress and specific situations that may arise. Any questions regarding the dress code should be directed to the grade-level dean.

Uniform items can be ordered at the [McDonogh School Store](#). Non-McDonogh branded items may be purchased from your preferred retailer.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Clothing Item	Regular Dress	Special Dress
TOPS		
Polo shirts with the McDonogh logo, short- or long-sleeved (white, grey, orange, or black)	Allowed	Not allowed
Collared button-up shirt (white or light blue)	Allowed	Required
McDonogh branded sweatshirt, jacket, quarter-zip, sweater (black, grey, orange, or white)	Allowed	Not allowed
Navy Blazer	Allowed	Required
BOTTOMS		
Dress cotton twill pants (khaki or stone)	Allowed	Required
Dress cotton twill pants (black)	Allowed	Not allowed
Cotton twill skorts (khaki or stone)	Allowed	Required

Cotton twill shorts (khaki or stone)	Allowed	Not allowed
ACCESSORIES		
Clothing Item	Regular Dress	Special Dress
Student ID	Required	Required
Tie (McDonogh orange or navy)	Allowed	Required with pants
Belt	Required with belt loops	Required with belt loops
TIGHTS/LEGGINGS		
Tights (black) <i>under skort</i>	Allowed	Allowed
Leggings (plain black only) <i>under skort</i>	Allowed	Allowed
SHOES		
Closed-toe, closed-back leather-like shoes (black, brown, or tan)	Allowed	Required
Solid-color sneakers (white, black, dark blue, or grey)	Allowed	Not allowed
Boots (white, black, dark blue, or grey)	Allowed	Not allowed
Rain Boots (any solid color)	Allowed	Not allowed