Please read the guidelines thoroughly and complete the acknowledgment form on the last page. Return the signed page to your Bible teacher by the first Friday of school.

Dress Code for grades PreK4 -12

Banner Christian School requires uniforms for all students in grades PreK4 -12.

General Guidelines

- **School uniforms must have the current, approved Banner logo on them and be purchased from our specific school page of pre-approved items through one of the following venues:**
  - Flynn O'Hara
    - 9722 Midlothian Turnpike, Richmond, VA 23235
    - 9650-19 Main Street, Fairfax, VA 22031
  - Land's End (www.landsend.com)
  - Uniforms by Tommy Hilfiger (Global Schoolwear)
  - Schoolbelles (http://www.schoolbelles.com/register)
- Students must arrive and leave campus in dress code.
  - Exceptions exist for:
    - students with a 7th-period PE class who may stay in their PE uniforms
    - student-athletes who are changing into team uniforms prior to leaving for a game.
      - Volleyball players must wear pants or skirts over their spandex until they arrive at the gym.
      - Female tennis players & golfers must wear sweats under or in lieu of their skirts until they reach the courts/course.
- Uniform items that are in disrepair must be replaced. This applies to rips, holes, writing/drawing, fraying, or any other factor that affects the general neatness/appearance of the article.
- Hats and caps are not to be worn inside of the building.
- Distracting, offensive, or "extreme" jewelry is prohibited.
- Undergarments must not be visible.
- Tattoos that are not visible when wearing the school uniform are permitted.
- No writing or drawing on visible skin is permitted.
- Shirts must be tucked in at all times, with the exception of Pre-K and Kindergarten.
- All shoes must match and be closed-toed.
  - Flip-flops and beach-type shoes are prohibited.
  - Crocs are permitted provided they have closed toes and are not worn for PE.
- Outerwear worn in the building (jackets, fleeces, crewneck sweatshirts, cardigan/pullover sweaters, etc.):
  - must have a current, approved Banner logo,
  - may be worn **in addition to, but not in lieu of** the uniform,
  - may not have a hood,
  - may not be draped over the shoulders or tied around the waist.

****The guidelines in the next two sections have been updated for 2024.**
Black items will be allowed/grandfathered until August 2024.

Boys' Guidelines

- Faces and necks must be clean-shaven or neatly groomed.
- Hairstyles must have no extremes in color, length, or style.

    - Hair coloring is permitted, provided it is of "natural" hair color (black, brown, auburn, natural red, blonde, or a tasteful blend of these).
- Hair must be properly brushed/groomed/or styled in a manner that looks clean, well-kept, and off the face/out of the eyes.
- Boys are permitted to wear one necklace (see above bullet point regarding jewelry).
- Pants and Shorts (***NOTE: all shorts must be long enough to touch the top of the kneecap***):
    - must be khaki or navy blue, *Navy blue bottoms are required for field trips.
    - purchased from one of our authorized uniform suppliers.
    - contain no rips, holes, or torn hems, and
    - must not be over- or undersized (pant hems must touch shoes).
- Shirts (long and short sleeve):
    - must be white, navy blue, or kelly green. *A kelly green polo is required for field trips.
    - must contain the Banner logo.
    - white button-down oxford shirt (with Banner logo) is optional.
    - must be tucked in (Pre-K and Kindergarteners are exempt).
- The following are permitted **under** Banner polos (but must be plain):
    - white or navy short-sleeve t-shirts,
    - white or navy long-sleeve t-shirts,
    - white or navy turtlenecks, and
    - white or navy or mock turtlenecks.
- Belts may be black, brown, or navy blue. (Kindergarteners are exempt)
- Socks must match, and be either white, navy blue, or black.
    - (they may contain a small logo).
- The following items are not permitted for boys at Banner Christian School:
    - piercings (ear or otherwise),
    - make-up, or
    - fingernail polish.

Girls' Guidelines

- Ear piercings and non-visible body piercings are permitted.
    - facial piercings are not permitted.
- Hairstyles must have no extremes in color or style.
    - Hair coloring is permitted provided it is of "natural" hair color (black, blonde, brown, auburn/natural "red," or a tasteful blend of these).
        - Examples
- Skirts (***NOTE: all skirts must be long enough to touch the top of the kneecap***):
    - Skirts must be khaki or navy blue, *Navy blue bottoms are required for field trips.
    - Plaid kilt skirts must be purchased from Schoolbelles.
    - Jumpers (**Lower School only**) must be khaki, navy blue or plaid (from Schoolbelles).
    - Skorts (**Lands End "Top of Knee Chino skort" only**) must be khaki or navy blue.
- Slacks must be khaki or navy blue and purchased from one of our authorized uniform suppliers. *Navy blue bottoms are required for field trips.
- Shorts (***NOTE: all shorts must be long enough to touch the top of the kneecap***):
    - must be khaki or navy blue, *Navy blue bottoms are required for field trips.
    - must touch the top of the knee, and
    - must be Bermuda-style, and
    - must not be worn over leggings.
- Shirts (long and short sleeve):

    - must be white, navy blue, or kelly green. *A kelly green polo is required for field trips.
    - must contain the Banner logo.
    - white button-down oxford shirt (with Banner logo) is optional.
    - must be tucked in (Pre-K and Kindergarteners are exempt)
- The following are permitted **under** Banner polos (but must be plain):
    - white or navy blue short-sleeve t-shirts,
    - white or navy blue long-sleeve t-shirts,
    - white or navy blue turtlenecks, and
    - white or navy blue mock turtlenecks.
- Belts may be black, brown, or navy blue. (Pre-K and Kindergarteners are exempt)
- Shoes must have heels no higher than 1½ inches (No heels are allowed in LS).
- Socks must match, and be either white, navy blue, or black.
    - (they may contain a small logo).
- Hose, Tights, and Leggings
    - must be worn in conjunction with a skirt (or jumper for Lower School) and
    - must be full-length.
    - tights and leggings must be white or navy blue,
    - hose must be natural in color, and
    - all tights, leggings and hose must be a solid form of one of the aforementioned colors and free of patterns.

Regular Dress Down Day Guidelines

On the first Friday of each month, students are permitted (but not required) to participate in a regular dress down day. The following guidelines are required:

- Approved Shirts:
    - Banner t-shirts,
    - Banner outerwear (jackets, fleeces, cardigan/pullover sweater, crewneck or hoodie sweatshirt, etc.), or
    - Banner uniform polo.
- Pants:
    - may be regular uniform pants (khaki or navy blue) or
    - uniform Bermuda shorts (khaki or navy blue).
    - Denim blue jeans may be worn, but must not
        - be any color other than blue,
        - contain holes or rips, or
        - be too tight (no jeggings or tight fitting jeans)
    - Girls may wear denim blue jean capris, but they must be **below-the-knee** in length.
    - PE shorts are not allowed.
- Shoes must adhere to the same rules as regular uniform days.

Full Dress-Down Days

On occasion, a full dress down day fundraiser will be held by either the sophomore or junior classes. Students choosing to participate are not required to wear Banner attire, but must pay the $3 fee (charged to FACTS) and adhere to the following:

Tops

- Shirts must
    - have sleeves or straps at least an inch thick,
    - cover the midsection,
    - not be too tight or low-cut and
    - not contain inappropriate images, words, or phrases.

Bottoms

- Pants other than jeans or Banner uniform pants may be worn as long as they
  - do not contain holes or rips,
  - are not too tight, and
  - do not contain inappropriate images, words, or phrases.
- Boys may wear shorts, but they must **touch the knee**.
- Girls may wear dresses, skirts (with **no slits**), or Bermuda shorts, but they must **touch the knee**.
- Shoes must adhere to the same rules as regular uniform days.
- The following are not permitted:
  - Yoga or other athletic stretch pants
  - Jeggings
  - Leggings (except under a skirt or dress of appropriate length--to the knee)

Spirit Week costumes

Each year Banner celebrates our alumni with a Homecoming Court and basketball game. To build anticipation for these events and team spirit/school unity we schedule a week to come to school dressed in a costume based on the theme of the day. Students are not required to participate in these “dress up” days and are allowed to wear their regular school uniforms. However, students choosing to participate must come dressed in an actual costume that represents the day’s theme, not simply jeans and a t-shirt. In addition, the costumes must adhere to the same rules as those that apply on full dress-down days.

- Shirts must
  - have sleeves or straps at least an inch wide,
  - cover the midsection,
  - not be too tight or low-cut and
  - not contain inappropriate images, words, or phrases.
- Most pants types may be worn as long as they
  - do not contain any holes or rips (not even if leggings are worn underneath),
  - are not too tight, and
  - do not contain inappropriate images, words, or phrases.
- Boys and girls may wear shorts, but they must **touch the knee**.
- Girls may wear dresses or skirts (with **no slits**), but they must **touch the knee**.
  - An exception to this is made for Banner cheerleaders who may wear their cheer uniforms, including the skirts over appropriate bottoms, on Fired-Up Friday.
- The following are not permitted at any time:
  - Yoga or other athletic stretch pants
  - Jeggings
  - Leggings (except under a skirt, dress, or shorts of knee length)
- Shoes must adhere to the same rules as regular uniform days.

Field Trip Uniform Guidelines

Students are required to wear the following uniform combination for field trips, unless otherwise noted:

Boys

- Navy blue pants or shorts
- Kelly green Banner polo shirt
- White, navy blue, or black socks.

Girls

- Navy jumper or skirt
- Kelly green Banner polo shirt

- White, navy blue, or black socks.

Approved Banner "cold weather" items (jacket, fleece, cardigan/pullover sweater with Banner logo) are permitted in addition to field trip uniform. No Hoodies or crewneck sweatshirts.

Outerwear Pre K-12

Only approved outerwear purchased through Banner Christian School, Flynn-O'Hara Uniform, Land's End, Schoolbelles, or Tommy Hilfiger may be worn during the school day.

- Coats or jackets that are not Banner issued (or those with a hood) may only be worn outside.

If for any reason Flynn-O'Hara Uniform, Land's End, Schoolbelles, or Tommy Hilfiger cannot supply you with any required uniform item, please ask them to give you a written permission slip to be given to the school stating the reason they cannot outfit your child and when they expect to be able to outfit your child. **If you are in doubt about any item's acceptability, please contact the school PRIOR to your purchase.**

Final determination of dress code rests in the hands of the administration.

Homecoming Court/Gala Dress Code

For young ladies

- Formal dresses or formal gowns that are modest and sufficiently cover the body without being too tight.
- No dress (strapless or otherwise) may be low cut or showing cleavage.
- Cut outs (even covered with lace or see-through fabric), bare midriffs, two-piece outfits, exposed cleavage, bare backs below the waistline, and slits more than 2" above the knee are not acceptable.

Dresses must be approved in person ahead of time by Mrs. Culver (or an administrator).

For young men

- Tuxedo or suit, button-up dress shirt, tie, and dress shoes are required.
    - Sports jackets are not considered formal attire and are not acceptable.

Invited guests

- Guests invited to Prom/Gala from outside of Banner's student population must be members in good standing at their high schools and/or homeschool.
    - they must agree to, sign, and submit a Guest Expectations form also signed by their principal and parent.
- All guests, Banner or other, must be in 10th-12th grades or a recent graduate (15-20 years old).
- All female guests must get their dresses approved in person (if absolutely necessary, a video of the young lady wearing the dress and walking toward and away from the camera may be substituted if approved in advance).

Discipline Policy for Dress Code

- Lower School violations of the dress code may result in one ticket per offense.
- Middle/Upper School violations will result in one demerit per offense.
- A two (2) week "grace period" is afforded to students at the beginning of the year (or their admitted date if they start later) during which they will receive verbal or written warnings. After that timeframe, all infractions are subject to demerits with no additional warnings given.

Please read the guidelines thoroughly and complete the following acknowledgment. Return this signature page to your Bible teacher on the first day of school.

I, _____, have read and agree to abide by the dress code guidelines set forth by Banner Christian School. I understand that failure to abide by these specifications will result in disciplinary action.

_____

Student signature

_____

Parent signature