

Uniform and Grooming

Policy SE-12.0 Uniform and Dress Code Philosophy

The uniform policy aims to set a higher standard of excellence. This policy is designed to foster a healthy pride in the school identity, to facilitate the education of the LTA students, to ensure the safety of all students, and to encourage students to develop and define their character unencumbered by the latest trends and fashions.

At LTA, students wear uniforms to eliminate distractions and to remind themselves that we endeavor to do important work. The spirit of the uniform policy is that students will dress and groom themselves in a manner that is traditional, not distracting, and not obstructive. This policy will be reviewed and updated as necessary by the LTA Administration and the LTA Board of Directors. If an item is not mentioned as part of the dress code, it is NOT approved and NOT allowed within the dress code.

All Uniform items are available for purchase on the French Toast website. Acceptable uniform items may also be purchased from various stores such as Old Navy, Burlington, Lands' End, JCPenney, Kohl's, Target, and Walmart. However, all items must match the color and style of the items as they are presented on the French Toast school uniform store. Please contact the LTA administration if you need clarification before purchasing uniform items.

LTA 4-year transition to a Classical Uniform

A uniform serves as a clear and unmistakable sign of membership. A dress code details what is and is not appropriate to wear. While uniforms can allow for variety and creativity, their fundamental characteristic is that they create visual unity according to a shared identity.

Over the next four years, Liberty Tree Academy will move towards an intentional classical uniform rather than a dress code. Ultimately, our uniform will consist of polos and outerwear that represent the school colors and bear the school crest while keeping uniform costs affordable.

Year 1: Define School Polo Colors, offering uniforms with the crest. (26-27 School Year)

- **K-6 Polo Colors: Red, White, Navy Blue**
- **7-12 Polo Colors: Red, White, Navy Blue, Forest Green**

Year 2: Define uniform outerwear, pants, and skirts (27-28 School Year)

Year 3: Require all uniform polos to have the school crest (28-29 School Year)

Year 4: Refine policy for socks and shoes (29-30 School Year)

Expectations

Students must be in uniform to attend class and at any time while they participate as students on campus. This includes attending any school-supported/sponsored activity, tutoring appointments, and advising appointments during the year unless otherwise indicated. Students not in uniform will be sent to the office and must call a parent or guardian when necessary. Parents will bring acceptable attire, or students will be sent home. Such absences are not excused.

Simplified Uniform: This uniform is universally acceptable at all grade levels.

All students are allowed to wear chino-style Khaki pants

Dress shoes or tennis shoes

Solid white, black, or navy socks

A solid white, red, or navy-blue polo

3rd through 12th grade students are required to wear a belt.

Policy SE-13.0 Uniform Policy

SHIRTS: All shirts must always be tucked in.

Requirement	K-2	3-6	7-12
Polo Colors	White, Navy, Red	White, Navy, Red	White, Navy, Red, Forest Green
Oxford / Peter Pan Colors	White	White	White
Approved Styles	Boys & Girls: Polos	Boys & Girls: Polos	Boys & Girls: Polos
	Boys: Oxford Shirts	Boys: Oxford Shirts	Boys: Oxford Shirts
	Girls: Peter Pan Collar Shirts	Girls: Peter Pan Collar Shirts	Girls: Peter Pan Collar Shirts

Shirt Requirements:

- Shirts must remain tucked in and be long enough to stay tucked when both hands are raised.
- No stripes, accent stitching, or visible logos.
- Collars must match shirt color.
- Visible undershirts must be white.
- Turtlenecks may be worn as undershirts.
- Athletic wear and long underwear are not considered undershirts.
- No visible logos or designs.
- Polos must have functional buttons to the collar.
- Only the top button may be undone.

- Uniform shirts must not be form-fitting or see-through.

PANTS AND SHORTS

• Requirement	• K-2	• 3-6	• 7-12
• Colors	• Navy, Khaki, Dark Gray	• Navy, Khaki, Dark Gray	• Navy, Khaki, Dark Gray, Black
• Belt Requirement	• Optional	• Required	• Required

Pants and Shorts Requirements:

- Dockers/chino style only.
- Flat or pleated construction.
- Matching thread.
- Belt loops required where belts are required.
- No sagging.
- Must be hemmed.
- No cargo, carpenter, skinny, jean-style, stretchy, low-rise, corduroy, or capri styles.
- Four visible pockets maximum.
- No holes, rips, frays, or stains.
- Shirt and pants may not be the same color.
- No embellishments.

Shorts Length:

Grade Level	Requirement
K-6	No shorter than 1" from knee
7-12	No shorter than 2" from knee

SKIRTS AND JUMPERS (Female Students)

Requirement	K-5	6	7-12
Colors	Navy, Khaki, Dark Gray, French Toast Blue-Red Plaid	Same	Navy, Khaki, Black, Dark Gray, Blue-Red Plaid
Styles	Pleated Hem Jumper, Round Neck Jumper, Two Tab Scooter, Pleated Skirt, Pleated Scooter w/Grosgrain Ribbon	6th Grade Only: Pleated Skirts, Long Pleated and Straight Skirts, and Below the Knee Pleated Skirts (6th grade girls may not wear jumpers)	Pleated Skirt (French Toast approved style only)

Skirt Requirements:

- Hemline restrictions remain exactly as written.
- Kick shorts requirements remain exactly as written.
- Jumpers require uniform shirts underneath.
- Dresses prohibited.
- Stretch material prohibited.
- Only one pair of shorts may be worn at a time.

BELTS

Requirement	K-2	3-6	7-12
Requirement	Optional	Required	Required
Colors	If worn, must meet 3-12 requirements	Black or Brown	Black or Brown

Belt Standards:

- Flat, braided, or woven.
- Plain buckle only.
- Leather or faux leather.
- No studs, grommets, or raised designs.
- Excess cannot exceed 5 inches from buckle.

TIES

Requirement	K-2	3-6	7-12
Boys	Optional	Optional	Optional
Girls Cross Tie	Optional	Optional	Optional
Colors	Red, Navy, Blue-Red Plaid	Same	Same

UNIFORM OUTERWEAR

Requirement	K-2	3-6	7-12
Approved Colors	Navy, Light Gray, Dark Gray	Same	Same
Approved Styles	Cardigans, vests, quarter-zips, full-zips	Same	Same

Outerwear Rules:

- No hoodies.
- No fleece.
- No sweatshirts.
- No logos.
- No stripes or prints.
- Must fit correctly.
- Must be worn properly.
- Scarves are not part of the uniform.

Upper School Exceptions

- Letterman jackets permitted.
- Navy blazers permitted with formal uniforms.
- Athletes wear blazers on game days.

SHOES

Approved:

- Tennis shoes
- Dress shoes

Requirements:

- Closed toe.
- Closed heel.
- Heel less than 1".
- Matching shoes.
- Non-distracting colors.
- Laces tied.
- Tennis shoes required for PE.

Not Allowed:

- Crocs
- Uggs
- Slippers
- Moccasins
- Sandals
- Flip-flops
- Barefoot-style shoes
- Fashion shoes

- Cowboy boots
- Combat boots

- Winter boots (except arrival/departure on snow days)

SOCKS AND TIGHTS

Requirement	K-6	7-12
Sock Colors	White, Navy, Black, Light Gray, Dark Gray, Red, Khaki	Neutral/coordinating colors
Tights / Leggings	White, Navy, Black, Dark Gray	Same

Requirements:

- Socks required.
- Socks visible above shoe.
- Solid colors only.
- No patterns.
- Girls may wear tights instead of socks.
- No fishnet or decorative hosiery.

OUTDOOR ATTIRE

Approved:

- Coats
- Jackets
- Sweatshirts
- Hoodies

Rules:

- Outdoor wear only.
- Must be stored properly when indoors.
- Winter hats allowed outside only.
- Hats removed indoors.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM

Grade Level	Requirement
K-6	Tennis shoes required
7-12	School PE uniform OR navy athletic shorts and solid gray shirt

MAKEUP AND NAIL POLISH

Only female students may wear makeup and nail polish.

Requirement	Kindergarten–2nd Grade	3rd–6th Grade	7th–12th Grade
Makeup	Not allowed	Not allowed	Only natural-looking makeup is allowed (example: black lipstick is not allowed). Only female students may wear makeup.
Colored Nail Polish	Not allowed	Not allowed	Only solid colored nail polish is allowed. No designs/accents are permitted. Black nail polish is not allowed.
Clear Nail Polish	Only clear nail polish can be worn.	Only clear nail polish can be worn.	Permitted
Artificial/Fake Nails	Fake nails are NOT permitted.	Fake nails are NOT permitted.	All policies concerning fingernails apply equally to artificial nails.
Nail Length	N/A	N/A	Nails may not extend more than ¼ inch beyond the fingertip. If they interfere with

			writing or student activities, they are too long.
Nail Polish Consistency	N/A	N/A	Nail polish needs to be the same color on all nails and must not be a distraction.
False Eyelashes / Heavy Eyeliner	N/A	N/A	No fake eyelashes, cat eye liner, or heavy eye liner.

Not Allowed

Kindergarten–6th Grade	7th–12th Grade
Make-up, Colored Nail Polish, Body Glitter, Stickers, Face Paint, Visible Temporary or Permanent Tattoos	Body Glitter, Stickers, Face Paint, Visible Temporary or Permanent Tattoos

JEWELRY

LTA allows students to wear modest and discrete jewelry.

Requirement	Kindergarten–2nd Grade	3rd–6th Grade	7th–12th Grade
Necklaces	Only one (1) necklace can be worn at a time.	Only one (1) necklace can be worn at a time.	Only one (1) necklace can be worn at a time.
Bracelets	Only one (1) bracelet per wrist. Watches count as bracelets.	Only one (1) bracelet per wrist. Watches count as bracelets.	Only one (1) bracelet per wrist. Watches count as bracelets.
Earrings	Students are permitted to wear studs or earrings that are smaller than the size of a dime, with only one (1) earring per ear.	Students are permitted to wear studs or earrings that are smaller than the size of a dime, with only one (1) earring per ear.	Students may only wear studs, earrings, or hoops smaller than the size of a quarter. US students may have multiple earrings per ear, as long as they are safe and discrete.
Watches	Watches with photo/camera or internet/text capability are not allowed. Digital watches or Fitbits are allowed, provided they do not have the above-mentioned capabilities. If watches become a distraction, students will be asked to remove them.	Same requirement.	Same requirement.

General Jewelry Standards

- Bracelets or wristbands with studs, grommets, or eyelets are not allowed.
- Watches with photo/camera or internet/text capability are not allowed (ex: Smartwatch, Android watch). Digital watches or Fitbits are allowed, provided they do not have the above-mentioned capabilities. If watches become a distraction, students will be asked to remove them.
- An object with a purpose other than jewelry cannot be worn as jewelry (i.e., animal chains or animal-like collars or chokers, safety pins).
- Necklace pendants cannot be larger than a quarter.
- Ankle bracelets are NOT allowed.
- Sweatbands are not allowed anywhere on the body.
- Only female students may wear earrings.
- Nose rings, tongue rings, barbells, lip rings, gauges or any piercing rings other than earrings are not

permitted. Any student who chooses to get such piercings should consult with the administration. They will be required to wear a clear piercing retainer or to cover the piercing with a band aid.

- Any accessory that could potentially detract from the mission and vision of LTA is not permissible.

HAIRSTYLES AND GROOMING

Category	Standard
Hair Color	Natural Colored Hair
Male Hair Length	For male students: hairstyles cannot stand higher than two inches on the head, nor exceed the bottom of the collar. Cultural practices will be taken into consideration.
General Grooming	Hair must be clean, well-groomed, and out of the eyes.
Hair Extensions	Natural colored hair extensions are permitted for female students only; shaved sides on female students are not permitted.
Visibility	Any styles that are distracting and/or impair vision are not allowed.
Extreme Hairstyles	Extreme hairstyles are not allowed . This includes such hairstyles as mohawks, rat tails, mullets, shaved words, cuts/shaves (false hairlines), letters, or symbols.
Facial Hair	Male students are expected to be clean shaven. Any exceptions must be approved by school administration.
Ponytails	Ponytails may be worn by female students only.
Costume Accessories	Costume headbands with ears, springs or lights, etc., are not allowed.
Bows	Bows must be reasonably sized and not distracting.
Hair Accessories	Hair accessories are allowed for female students but must not be distracting.

MISCELLANEOUS

- NO writing or drawing on any part of the body at ANY time.
- No chains or lanyards of any kind may be worn on top of clothing, on backpacks, or hanging from pockets at any time.
- Colognes, perfumes, body sprays, hairspray, etc., are not to be applied or sprayed in classrooms or hallways.
- Visible pimple patches must be clear or skin tone.
- Sunglasses are not to be worn in the school building at any time.
- Uniforms must be worn when on campus and for field trips unless otherwise stated. Uniforms must also be worn for all before and after-school programs and after-school tutoring and enrichment sessions, except on occasions specified by the instructor.
- Students not involved in an after-school sport need to leave the school campus (building/parking lot) in their uniform (P.E. uniform is not acceptable) unless they must change for a school-sponsored activity. Exceptions must be approved by the administration.
- Students may use any backpack if it is clean and tasteful. US students must keep their backpacks in their lockers. Backpacks are not allowed in classrooms and should not be left out in the hallway.
- References to sex, drugs, tobacco, alcohol, weapons, obscenities, profanities, as well as anything vulgar, lewd, legally slanderous, or racist may not be worn as a decoration or as an embellishment of the uniform, lunch box, water bottle, or backpack.
- Only school issued or school approved pins, badges, and insignia may be worn on uniforms or backpacks. Personal pins, badges, or accessories displaying slogans, symbols, or advocacy messages are not

- permitted.
- Traditional/Religious headwear or makeup, as well as protective hairstyles commonly or historically associated with race, are allowed.
- Items not covered above but considered inappropriate, dangerous, or a distraction from the learning environment are subject to review by the administration.

ALTERNATE DRESS DAYS

JEANS DAY

At the discretion of the LTA staff and administration, students may participate in a school fund-raiser and wear denim on designated Fridays by making a \$1.00 contribution to LTA. Please note that jeans days are a privilege, not a policy. If a student is out of the dress code, an option will be given from the Uniform Closet.

Requirements:

- Jeans should be worn at the waist, fit properly, shirt tucked in, with a belt.
- A uniform shirt or a Liberty Tree class or spirit wear shirt must be worn and tucked in.
- Jeans must have five pockets: two in front with a coin pocket (optional) and two in the back.
- Flare Leg, Loose Fit (Relaxed Fit), or Wide Leg styles are permissible. This does not mean baggy.
- Jeans must not be form-fitting and should have loose hems around the ankle.
- Embroidery or designs are only allowed on the back pockets and must not be distracting.
- Denim blue, black, gray, or khaki jeans only.
- No holes or frayed patches or edges in jeans.
- Jean shorts are not allowed.

Not Permitted:

- Cargo-style jeans.
- Painter-style jeans.
- Hip huggers.
- Low-rise jeans.
- Tight-fitting jeans.
- Jeggings.
- Skinny jeans.
- Spandex or stretch-material jeans.

Enforcement

- If any staff member declares a student's jeans too tight, a Dress Code Violation will be given and will require the student to put on a school uniform.

SPIRIT DAYS

Students are permitted to wear LTA Spirit wear T-shirts with uniform pants/skirts on the Half-day Fridays at the beginning of each month.

FORMAL EVENTS AND GAME DAYS

Grades 7–12*

Boys

- Navy blazer
- White button up Oxford shirt
- A tie (Blue Red Plaid, red, or navy)
- Khaki pants
- Dress shoes OR clean tennis shoes

Girls

- Navy blazer
- White button up Oxford shirt, peter pan collared shirt, or polo
- Khaki skirt or pants
- Dress shoes OR clean tennis shoes

*6th Grade students may only participate during game days for their sports team.