



Kestrel Heights Charter School

www.kestrelheights.org

4700 S. Alston Ave, Durham, NC 27713 - Phone: 919.484.1300

Fax (919) 484.1355

Kestrel Heights Staff and Administration

2019-2020 KHS Uniform Dress Code

KHS believes that a uniform dress code is an important part of a safe, orderly school environment where the focus is on our scholars learning how to become respectful, responsible young citizens.

The policy allows for some scholar choice, yet establishes parameters for acceptable dress. Scholars at KHS should be in “dress code” from the time they arrive at school until they leave campus for the day.

All scholars are expected to be in dress code, and to adjust their attire to be in dress code when asked by a staff member. If a scholar is unwilling or unable to be in dress code, school staff will call the parent/guardian to bring proper dress code attire. If the parent does not provide appropriate clothing (within a responsible time) the scholar will receive the following consequences:

1st offense (verbal warning); 2nd offense (3 days of lunch detention); 3rd offense (Administrator Discretion); 4th offense (1 day OSS); 5th offense (1 day OSS); 6th and Beyond (3 days OSS)

The following is a description of appropriate dress for scholars:

Pants/Skirts/Shorts/Dresses:

- Tan/Khaki, black, or navy blue pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, or polo dresses (red dresses okay)
 - If scholar wears leggings or tights, they must be a) worn underneath a skirt, dress, or shorts of dress code requirements and b) in dress code colors
- Shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers, or polo dresses must meet the fingertip rule (no shorter than the tips of fingers when down straight by the sides of the body)
- If pants, shorts, skorts, or skirts sag (sagging is clothing below the natural waist line and/or low enough to make undergarments visible) then some type of belt or elastic is required
- The following materials are NOT allowed: denim material, sweat pant material, “shiny” nylon material, or legging material

Shirts:

- Shirts will be pullover, button polo in long/short sleeve in solid white, black, primary red, or navy blue
- **ONLY** KHS Logos on the outside of shirts are allowed
- Button down dress shirts are NOT within dress code.
- Shirrtails must be below the belt loops and above the end of the zipper of pants/skirt (Shirts do not have to be tucked as long as they meet this criteria)
- Shirts need to be buttoned up enough to be appropriate for the educational setting (The Principal will be the final say on what is appropriate, shirts should not be revealing)

Sweatshirts/Sweaters/Fleece:

- Solid-colored sweatshirts, sweaters, sweatshirt-like full or half zippers, or fleece (solid white, black, primary red, or navy blue) are permitted
- **ONLY** KHS Logos on the outside of sweatshirts are allowed
- Polo shirts or turtleneck must be worn under any outer wear
- Hoods on sweatshirts (hoodies) are not allowed (this also includes Kestrel Heights logo)
- Outerwear jackets are not to be worn in the classroom

Shoes:

- Shoes (with laces tied) should be comfortable and have non-skid rubber soles. We recommend that scholars wear tennis or other “sport” shoes that are in good repair. Closed toe shoes only. Shoes must be worn at all times, unless permitted by a classroom teacher for a specific activity (such as dance class)
- No Flip-flops, high heeled shoes, Crocs, or bedroom slippers are allowed

Undergarments

- Any visible clothing (examples include undershirts, leggings, turtlenecks, etc) worn under the dress code must also be in one of the 4 colors (solid white, black, primary red, or navy blue) and writing/logos are not permitted
- Leggings or tights do not count as pants and cannot make up the lengths for short shorts, short skirts, or short dresses (all outer clothing must meet the fingertip rule).

Jewelry/headgear/extra external garments:

- Clothing Required by Religious Beliefs:
 - Clothing required by the tenets of a scholar's religious tradition, such as headscarves or yarmulkes, are allowed
- Headwear:
 - Bows and headbands are allowed
 - Animal ears, character bands, and non-prescription eyewear are considered toys and are not permitted
 - Hats are not to be worn inside the school building
- Outerwear:
 - Outerwear, such as coats, vests, scarves, hats, sunglasses, and gloves, are not permitted inside the school building

- Jewelry:
 - Pierced ornamental jewelry is allowed.
 - All jewelry can be banned on an individual basis if it becomes a distraction to the learning environment (such as bracelets which make clanging noises)
- Anything worn by a scholar that is causing a distraction to the school environment will be addressed by school staff, which could include removal of distracting item.

Dress Down Days and Friday Days

- Every Friday scholars will be allowed to wear any **unaltered** KHS shirt sweatpants/shorts purchased through KHS (no missing sleeves, no writing on shirts, etc.). No “homemade” KHS shirts are allowed
- The first Friday of each month is designated as dress down day
- Scholars can lose their dress down days as a school, grade, group, or individually. Examples of reasons for losing dress down day are behavior and overall effort
- During dress down days, scholars are allowed to wear clothes that are “appropriate” for school or they may wear dress code clothes.
 - Clothes **not allowed** include shirts or blouses without sleeves, or shirts/blouses that expose cleavage or the abdominal area; skirts or shorts with lengths that do not touch a scholar’s fingertips when the scholar is standing with hands by his/her side; and clothing with vulgar or alcohol-, drug- or tobacco-related language. No bedtime clothes are allowed during dress down days. Examples include bath robes, blankets, and PJs. Scholars with questions about appropriate clothing should check with one of their teachers
- Teachers and Administration reserve the right to designate special dress days. (i.e. spirit week, presentation days)