

DRESS CODE

Miller School of Albemarle adheres to a dress code for its students, not to control attire but, rather, to instill in the students a sense of **neatness, cleanliness, appropriateness, and pride in representing yourselves and the School**. For individuals or for the student body as a whole, rules regarding dress are subject to immediate adoption or modification by the Headmaster or by the Director of Student Life or her designee, in her sole discretion and without advance notice.

During the Academic Day (breakfast to 3:20 p.m.)

Girls:

- Shirts cannot be midriff or too small
- Polo shirts of any color
- Oxford button down shirts any color must be button up with the exception of top button
- Pants of any color, no denim (not too baggy or tight fitting) (no sweatpants or track pants)
- Skirts of any color, but must be no more than 3 inches above the knee
- Dresses – may be worn but must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee. The dress should not be low cut or revealing in the front, back or side
- Shorts – If any color but no shorter than 3 inches above the knee
- No Jeans or denim-like pants of any color are to be worn during the academic day. Appropriate jeans are only allowed after academic day and on Friday for seniors only as a senior privilege. Please note jeans cannot have tears, holes, studs or fraying
- Pants must sit on your upper hip or waist. No low riding of pants
- Sweaters and sweatshirts can be worn during the academic day. Note: Collared shirts must be worn underneath.
- Jackets with a collar are not considered a collar shirt

Bathing Suits: One-piece bathing suits are preferred, however a two piece bathing suit deemed appropriate by Student Life or the duty chief will be allowed. Bathing suits cannot be a thong or high cut on the sides. Girls should not loan bathing suits for two reasons. (1) It is not a good practice for healthy hygiene. (2) What is appropriate on one body type may not be appropriate on someone else.

Shoes: Tennis shoes, boots (except combat) sandals and flip flops can be worn during the school day. No shoes should not have higher than a 2 inch heel due to safety and health

Boys:

- Polo shirts any color
- Oxford button down shirts any color must be button up with the exception of top button

- Pants of any color (not too baggy or tight fitting) (no sweatpants or track pants)
- Shorts of any color
- No Jeans or denim-like pants of any color are to be worn during the academic day. Appropriate jeans are only allowed after academic day and on Friday for seniors only as a senior privilege. Please note jeans cannot have tears, holes, studs or fraying
- Pants must sit on your upper hip or waist. No low riding of pants
- Sweaters and sweatshirts can be worn during the academic day. Note: Collared shirts must be worn underneath.
- Jackets with a collar are not considered a collar shirt

Bathing Suits: Must be swimming shorts/trunks

Shoes: Tennis shoes, boots (except combat) sandals and flip flops can be worn during the school day

Girls and Boys

Hats: No hats, caps, bandanas, “doo” rags, wave caps, scarves, hoods etc. are to be worn in academic buildings

Fancy Dress Attire

From time to time throughout the school year, special events will occur on and off campus. On such occasions (which will be announced in advance) students will be expected to “dress up” to a standard higher than the class day attire. The following is acceptable for special events:

Girls:

- A “dressy” dress that is not strapless, halter top or spaghetti straps. Girls need to have a slip if the dress is not lined and is see-through. The dress should not be low cut or revealing in the front, back or side
- Skirts no more than 3 inches above the knee and a nice blouse (not sheer or see-through) are acceptable. a slip and other appropriate undergarments should be worn.
- Dress slacks are acceptable

Boys:

- Dress pants of any color (no denim) with a leather belt that fits
- Dress shoes
- Dress socks (do not wear white athletic socks with dress shoes)
- Collared dress shirt (long or short sleeves) fully tucked in
- Tie (good taste and appropriate length)
- Students may elect to wear a sports coat

“MSA Days”

Properly fitting jeans or cargo pants pockets are allowed along with Miller School of Albemarle T-shirts, collared shirts and crewneck sweatshirts when “Miller Days” or “dress down” days are announced. (These will be announced in advance).

During Non-Academic Times (weekdays 3:20 – 10:00 p.m. + weekends)

Clothing with inappropriate advertising, inappropriate images, vulgarity, slurs or obscenities are not allowed at any time.

Girls:

- Jeans are acceptable (no tears, holes, studs, fraying, etc.)
(Note: These rules also apply for jeans worn by seniors during the academic day on Fridays)
- Skorts must be no more than 3 inches above the knee
- Skirts must be no more than 3 inches above the knee
- No white sleeveless under t-shirts should be worn without an over shirt
- No Halter tops, spaghetti straps, or revealing shirts
- No shirts showing midriffs are allowed
- Pajama pants/nightgowns are only to be worn in the dorm. They are never allowed in the dining hall or Bistro – even on snow days!

Boys:

- Jeans are acceptable (no tears, holes, studs, fraying, etc.)
(Note: These rules also apply for jeans worn by seniors during the academic day on Fridays)
- Shirts must be worn at all times except at the pool and during organized games of “shirts and skins” on the fields or in the gym. Boys should not be walking around campus or be in campus buildings without a shirt
- No white sleeveless under t-shirts should be worn without an over shirt
- No shirts showing midriffs are allowed
- Pajama pants are only to be worn in the dorm. They are never allowed in the dining hall or Bistro – even on snow days

Acceptable Dining Hall Attire during dinner and on weekends

Girls and Boys:

- No sleeveless shirts are allowed in the dining hall (except for students who are in a school athletic uniform, for away games or eating dinner right after a home sporting event)
- No pajama pants/nightgowns at any time!

Hair

Boys and Girls:

- No bizarre haircuts and the color of the hair must be natural
- Hair should be clean, combed, and out of the eyes each day

- No student may cut or color another student's hair without permission from the Dorm Director
- A student who chooses to defy the School's standards by styling his or her hair in an extreme or bizarre fashion will not be allowed to travel off campus to represent the School on academic, social or athletic trips, nor will he or she be allowed to attend home athletic contests or social events by the School, until such time as the hair once again meets the School's guidelines.

Boys

- Boys must be clean shaven each day. Beards and mustaches are not permitted
- Sideburns are not to extend below the earlobe
- Hair cannot touch the collar

Body Piercings

Girls and Boys:

- The following are not permitted: Ear gauges, plugs, tapers and barbells.
- Nose, tongue, or cheek piercings are NOT allowed. Covering additional piercings on the ear or face area with tape or band-aids is not acceptable.
- Under no circumstances are students to self-pierce or pierce another student's ears or other body parts.
- No jewelry or body piercings are allowed to be worn during an athletic event.

Tattoos

Girls and Boys:

- Miller School of Albemarle discourages tattoos/body art/brands. **If you do not have any tattoos, don't plan on getting any if you are enrolling at MSA.**
- No tattoos/body art/brands are allowed on the head, face, neck or scalp. Tattoos elsewhere on the body, should not be excessive, obscene, and sexually explicit or advocate or symbolize sex, gender, racial, religious ethic or national origin discrimination. In addition, they cannot advocate or symbolize gang signs, extremist groups or drug and alcohol use. Such tattoos would have to remain covered at all times.

Dress for Athletic, Community Service and Activities off Campus

For those who are practicing for, competing in or traveling to an athletic event, proper attire during such periods will be at the discretion of the coach or faculty member supervising each particular team or gathering of students. The options are "fancy dress attire", "appropriate dress code" or approved pants with team jersey.

For those who are engaging in Wednesday afternoon service activities, proper attire includes appropriate dress code or appropriate clothing during non-academic times. Your service group leader will inform you as to which category of clothing to wear.

For school-assisted or school-sponsored weekend recreational trips off campus, at the bare minimum appropriate clothing during the non-academic times will apply. Duty Team Chiefs

have final say regarding appropriate dress for off campus outings. For mixers off-campus, attire will also be at the discretion of the Duty Team Chief with input from the Director of Student Life. Regardless of any decision of the Duty Team Chief, students must remember that on any Miller School of Albemarle outing- from field trips to mall trips to mixers at other schools – they are ambassadors of MSA and should look and act appropriately.

SHOPPING

Clothing that meets our dress code can be found at the following retailers: GAP, JC Penny, J Crew, Lands End, LL Bean, Marshall's, Old Navy, Target, TJ Maxx, Sears, American Eagle, Aeropostale, and Wal-Mart.