Dress Code

Students may wear any school apparel that the administration deems to be acceptable. Health Sciences Charter School has a uniform policy to help create a safe and orderly environment, instill discipline, and eliminate the competition and distractions caused by varied dress styles. Students are expected to arrive in uniform every day. Please cooperate, display modesty and neatness, and take pride in these clean, neat and attractive uniforms.

Purpose and Rationale: The School's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, and minimize safety hazards. All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school related functions. This will pertain to school related functions on and off of school grounds.

Health Sciences Charter School students should understand all dress code expectations and be in uniform daily. Morning checks during breakfast will be conducted daily by support staff and by all school staff throughout the day.

<table>
<tr><th></th><th>Acceptable Attire</th><th>Unacceptable Attire</th></tr>
<tr><td>Uniform Tops: Kindergarten</td><td>Navy Blue HSCS Short Sleeve Polo Shirts</td><td rowspan="3">Any not school issued shirt
Inside out shirts/sweatshirts
Hoodies</td></tr>
<tr><td>Uniform Tops: Middle School</td><td>Light Blue HSCS Short Sleeve Polo Shirts
Royal Blue HSCS Crewneck
Royal Blue HSCS Full Length Fleece</td></tr>
<tr><td>Uniform Tops: High School</td><td>Royal Blue or White HSCS Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve Polo Shirts
Royal Blue HSCS Crewneck
Royal Blue HSCS Full Length Fleece</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Notes:
All fleeces must have a uniform shirt worn underneath them
Seniors are occasionally allowed to wear their Senior Hoodies to school on certain days designated by the Administrative Staff</td></tr>
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	Acceptable Attire	Unacceptable Attire
Uniform Bottoms - All Grades	• Black or Khaki Dress Pants/Slacks • Black or Khaki Skirts • Black or Khaki Shorts or Capris • Plain black belts	• Cargo Pants, Leggings, and Jeans** • Sweatpants outside of PE • Undergarments should not be visible • Sagging Pants • Rips, holes, excessive zippers, excessive pockets, and/or chains. • Pants or skirts with patterns on them.
Notes: • Shorts and Capris may only be worn from May 1st through October 15th. • Shorts, Capris, and Skirts must be of a length of 1 inch above the knee or longer. • On pre-determined Fridays, students will be permitted to wear approved blue or black jeans. The rules regarding patterns, rips, etc all still apply to the jeans on these days.		
Footwear - All Grades	• Shoes (Solid black or brown) • Sneakers (Black or white with complimentary color variations)	• Flip Flops • Sandals • Heels of any kind • Open Toed Shoes • Slippers • Platforms • Wedges • Timberlands • UGGs • ACGs • Any other type of Boot
Notes: • Boots may be worn during the winter months, however a change of shoes must be brought to school to change into before entering homeroom. • Shoes or sneakers should be leather or rubber soled and appropriate for school.		
Headwear - All Grades	• Students upholding a religious obligation or have a medical concern will be permitted to wear headwear/headgear upon approval from administration.	• Fitted Hats, Knit Hats • Head Scarfs, Durags • Ear Warmers, Headbands, Bandanas • Ski Masks, Bonnets • Any other headgear that has not been approved by administration.

Book Bags, Purses, Backpacks - Middle School, High School	• Students are permitted to carry an approved clear plastic backpack during the day.	• All other book bags, totes, purses, and back packs must be placed in the student's locker for the duration of the school day.
	Acceptable Attire	Unacceptable Attire
Jewelry - All Grades	• One Necklace • Two Rings • Two Bracelets • One set of Earrings • One Watch	• Any other unapproved jewelry.
Notes: • Excessive amounts of Jewelry is prohibited • Hoop shaped earrings must be the size of an ID card.		
Nails - All Grades	• Students have permission to wear silk, gel, or acrylic nails at a professional and appropriate length (at the discretion of administration)	
Physical Education Apparel - All Grades	• All students are required to dress in appropriate HSCS physical education apparel for every class session held in the gymnasium or related facilities for courses that can include but are not limited to: Physical Education, Yoga, Personal Fitness, First Aid & CPR, etc.	
Physical Education Apparel: Tops	• Athletic t-shirt (any color) • Long sleeve athletic t-shirt (any color) • Crew neck sweatshirt (any color)	
Physical Education Apparel: Bottoms	• Athletic drawstring shorts • Athletic drawstring sweatpants • All athletic shorts/sweatpants must have a drawstring and be worn above the hips in an appropriate manner at all times. Baggy or sagging shorts or pants will absolutely not be tolerated.	
Physical Education Apparel: Footwear	• All students must wear sneakers during PE, Yoga, Personal Fitness, and/or First Aid & CPR. Any	

	students wearing footwear other than sneakers will not receive credit for the day and will also be required to make up the class session. ● The PE instructor will articulate specifically prohibited apparel in the course syllabus.	

Dress Code Enforcement

Administration will have the final determination of the appropriateness of student dress code compliance. Any student not adhering to the dress code will have their parent/guardian contacted to bring their uniform to the school and be required to wear a Health Sciences scrubs uniform until then or may not be permitted inside the school environment until they are in code and additionally may receive additional consequences.

Distraction Free Phone/Electronics Policy and Guidelines

New York State Bell-to-Bell Phone-Free Policy

In accordance with NYS Education Law, Health Sciences Charter School maintains a strict bell-to-bell restriction on personal internet-enabled devices during the school day. From arrival until dismissal, student smartphones, smartwatches, personal tablets, and wireless earbuds/headphones must be turned off/silenced and securely stored.

Storage Procedures by Grade Level

- **Elementary (Kindergarten):** Personal electronic devices are strongly discouraged. Any personal devices brought to school must be turned off and turned in to the classroom teacher or stored in designated classroom storage upon arrival.
- **Middle School (Grades 7–8):** Students must place their personal electronic devices (phones, smartwatches, earbuds) into their assigned Yondr pouches upon entering the building. Pouches must remain locked throughout the entire school day—including during classes, passing periods, and lunch—and will be unlocked at dismissal.
- **High School (Grades 9–12):** Students must turn in all personal electronic devices to designated Support Staff upon entering the building.
    - Support Staff will issue the student a numbered claims ticket upon receiving their device(s).
    - Devices will be safely stored in a secured area throughout the school day.
    - At dismissal, students must present their claims ticket to Support Staff to receive their device(s). If a ticket is lost, verification procedures will apply before the device is released.

Permitted Exemptions (Per NYS Law)

In compliance with state regulations, personal devices may be authorized only under specific circumstances:

1. Documented medical management plans (e.g., continuous glucose monitoring).
2. Formal accommodations mandated in a student's IEP or 504 Plan.
3. Specific instructional directions authorized directly by a teacher/administrator.
4. Emergency situations coordinated through school administrative