

**Maria Montessori Academy**  
**Policy: Dress Code Policy**  
**Adopted: February 9, 2021**



## **Purpose**

Maria Montessori Academy (the “School”) is concerned with the inner development of the child’s mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being. Therefore, we seek to limit undue focus on external appearances. Betiwyn Holcombe, a Montessori expert, best expresses the School’s dress code focus: *“A child who wants to shine needs to focus on shining from their mind not from what he or she puts on their body.”*

## **Policy**

Student appearance is expected to reflect the School’s college/workforce prep image. Clothing, shoes, hair, accessories, and bodies must be clean and must not be distracting or cause safety concerns. Any deviations from the items listed below must be approved by administration.

***\*Unless otherwise specified below, all clothing needs to be free from logos, lettering, graphics, sparkles, sheen, patterns, decorative accents, etc.***

***\*\* Dress Code is enforced Monday-Friday. Dress Down days will be announced at discretion of Director.***

## **Tops**

- **Color:** Any solid color.
- **Styles:** Uniform polos, button down shirts (must remain buttoned even with undershirt).
- **Layering:** Sweaters, pullovers, vests, and sweatshirts may be worn over shirts with collars and must comply with solid color restrictions and no logos. Students may wear layer long sleeve/short sleeve shirts under collared shirts.
- **School Pride T-Shirt:** May be worn any day of the week. This is the only shirt that is allowed without a collar. For school safety, teachers may require all students to wear the school shirt on field trips.
- **Dresses:** Must have collars.
- **Outerwear:** Outerwear is defined as anything worn over the standardized dress, such as, but not limited to, hoodies, jackets and coats. Students shall not be allowed to wear any type of hood/hoodie inside the school building, with the exception of college hoodies (which may have the college’s lettering, logo, and/or graphic), military hoodies (which may have lettering, logos, and/or graphics of any of the military branches), and School-themed hoodies (hoodies issued by the School). Nothing offensive on outerwear is allowed, such as offensive images, sayings, artwork, music groups, etc.

## **Bottoms**

- Color: Any solid color.
- Material: Cotton, twill, corduroy, denim.
- Style: Plain, pleated, cargo; no sagging or baggy pants.
- Skirts/jumpers/shorts: Pleated or straight; hemlines should fall below fingertips when arms are extended down sides of body. Leggings must be worn with skirts/dresses.
- Tights/hose/leggings: Solid colors only; leggings may only be worn under skirts/dresses/skorts.

## **Shoes**

- All elementary students need to have a soft sole shoe/slipper that must be worn at all times while in the building. The slipper needs to be free from logos, lettering, graphics, sparkles, sheen, decorative accents, and characters. \*Note: a small pattern is acceptable.
- Junior high students are not required to have slippers.

## **Accessories/Hair**

- Hairstyles and hair accessories are expected to be non-distracting and out of a student's eyes.
- Jewelry and other accessories are limited to wristwatches and non-distracting earrings.
- Hats or hoods will be worn outdoors only, and in the manner for which it was designed for.

## **Not Allowed**

- Visible tattoos.
- Body piercing, except ears.
- Large or clanging jewelry.
- Bandanas, feathers, or scarves.
- Bare midribs when raising arms or when sitting.
- Clothing that is frayed, has holes, tears, or stains.

Signature:

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Mary Wurm, Board Chair

Date