



SOUTH ACADEMY of
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES



Middle School Dress Code

Students at Charlotte-Mecklenburg middle schools are expected to continue a tradition of appropriate dress for school and school-related events. According to CMS School Policy, “extreme styles in clothing and grooming may be detrimental to the maintenance of discipline and morale in school. The principal and his/her staff are responsible for determining and enforcing regulations governing proper dress and grooming of students. Any type of dress or grooming which is disruptive will not be permitted.”

The South Academy of International Languages is a high-achieving middle school. We expect our students to be dressed for an academic atmosphere of purposeful learning and responsible citizenship. These guidelines will help you make good choices about what to wear to school, so that your parents don't need to be called:

- All clothing must be worn in an appropriate and tasteful manner, and as originally intended by the designer. For example, belts (if worn) must be worn around the waist; shirts or headbands will not be worn around the neck; suspenders or overalls will not be worn with straps down; shirts must be buttoned so chest or T-shirts are not exposed, shoes must be fastened/tied; etc. Clothes may not be worn inside out or backward.
- Abusive, suggestive or profane language; symbols of illegal substances; or any other words, symbols or slogans that disrupt the learning environment may not be worn on clothing or as jewelry.
- Students are required to wear shoes at all times for health and safety reasons.
- Appropriate clothing, such as gym clothes and tennis shoes, will be needed for the requirement of 30 minutes of daily physical activity for middle school students.
- Shorts and skirts are worn with leggings/tights underneath.

The following items WILL NOT be worn at school:

- Bedroom shoes/slippers or pajamas; flip-flops (regardless of thickness of sole); shower/spa shoes. Shoes with heels higher than 1.5 inches are not appropriate for the educational environment.
- Pants worn below the waist or showing clothing/underwear beneath the main outerwear. "Low rider" pants that reveal skin are not acceptable. This also means no sagging pants with the crotch closer to the knees than to their intended location. Pants must stay up without assistance - if you have to hold the waistband while walking to keep your pants on, your pants do not fit.
- Leggings or jeggings without a top that is at least fingertip length.
- Over-sized shirts and t-shirts are not permissible to wear.
- No items that expose skin excessively including clothing that exposes the mid-section, is excessively tight or loose, transparent.
- Spaghetti straps or strapless tops.
- Frayed or ripped clothing - even when wearing leggings underneath.