

## **Mercy Uniform Policy**

*Updated January 2019*

Uniform skirts (wrap around kilt), blouses, polos, and sweaters (cardigan and v-neck) must be purchased from Educational Outfitters. Quarter-zips sweatshirts must be purchased from Mercy's Marlin Shop. Skirts should be worn no more than two inches above the knee. Any student who permanently shortens her uniform skirt to an unacceptable length will be required to purchase a new skirt. Full uniform includes wearing your ID/lanyard **around your neck** at all times while in the building.

Only black v-neck or cardigan sweaters purchased from Educational Outfitters, black quarter-zip sweatshirts purchased from the Marlin Shop or Mercy Varsity letter sweaters may be worn in addition to the uniform blouse or polo and skirt (not in place of the blouse or polo).

- ❖ Class of 2019 – black kilt
- ❖ Class of 2020 – gray kilt
- ❖ Class of 2021 – green plaid kilt
- ❖ Class of 2022 – blue plaid kilt

Accessories to the uniform, including but not limited to hats and scarves, are not allowed. Any garment worn under the uniform blouse may not be visible, this includes sports bras. A long-sleeve, **white only**, top may be worn under the uniform blouse.

Students must wear **solid, without a pattern**, black, dark green, gray, maroon, navy or white (no neon or lace) foot/leg wear with their uniform. Footless tights or leggings may be worn under the uniform skirt, but socks must be worn as well.

Shoes must be closed toe and closed heel. Crocs and closed toe Birkenstock clogs are acceptable. The side of the shoe must rest below the ankle. Boots may be worn during the months of November – March (subject to be adjusted with inclement weather).

Sweatpants or pajama pants may be worn to school underneath the uniform skirt, but must be removed by 8:00 a.m. Students are expected to be in full uniform while in the building during the school day (between 8:00 a.m. and sign-out).

### **OTHER ATTIRE**

**BIRTHDAYS:** On a student's birthday, she may dress in Special Dress Day attire (see below). The birthday must occur on a school day, there is no making up for birthdays that fall over a weekend, break, or day when school is not in session.

**COATS:** Coats/jackets may not be worn in school at all during the school day. Coats/jackets may be placed in a locker or carried around during the school day in a bag. Coats/jackets may not be carried on your arms or around your neck, shoulders, or waist.

If coats/jackets are left unattended anywhere in the building, they may be taken by school personnel and claimed at the Reception Area by the student.

**DANCES:** Both Mercy students and their guests must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Dresses may not have a split that is higher than mid-thigh (fingertip length)
- Dress must be at least fingertip length
- Dresses must fit properly, not too tight and no excessive cleavage (extending below the bustline)
- Dresses may be backless as long as the skirt part begins at or above the waist
- Cut-outs or mesh portions that expose the body may not be in inappropriate areas
- Midriffs may NOT be exposed. Two-piece dresses or skirts and tops must overlap at the waist.
- Pinning will not be allowed as an alteration
- Shoes must be worn at all times. Young ladies are encouraged to bring flip-flops as a back-up when heels become uncomfortable.

**FIELD TRIPS:** If the field trip occurs during the school day, the school uniform is worn, unless special permission has been given by the Dean of Student Affairs to be out of uniform. If the field trip occurs after school, the uniform is worn during the school day. Students may choose to bring other clothing and change prior to the event.

**SPECIAL DRESS DAYS:** Special dress days for holidays, liturgies (when announced), or other special events should be viewed as dress-up days rather than dress-down days. Guidelines for special dress days direct that attire be appropriate for school. It is inappropriate to expose cleavage, mid-section, or hips. Ripped clothing, jeans, pajama pants, sweatpants, casual shorts, camis, strapless tops **are not** allowed. Dress shorts may be worn long as long as they are fingertip length or longer. Leggings or yoga pants may not be worn as stand-alone pants, only as an accessory to a dress or skirt. If this policy is violated the student will be given a uniform to wear for the day and will receive one JUG.

**SPIRIT ATTIRE DAYS:** One day each month (usually the first Friday) will be designated Mercy Spirit Attire Day. On these days students will be permitted to wear a Mercy shirt, be it for an activity, class, club, organization or team. Mercy accessories (hats, scarves, etc.) are allowed. Students must be in uniform on the bottom (uniform skirt, leg wear, and shoes).

Additional allowances:

- Athletic teams may select one day during their season to wear team athletic apparel to school. In addition, any athletic team whose members qualify for state final competition will be able to wear team apparel on the last school day prior to leaving for the state events.

- Link Leaders will be able to promote the final social follow-up event by wearing their Link Crew t-shirts, with the uniform skirt, on the day of the event (some time towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester).
- LORE staff will be able to advertise the sale of books in October, November, and December by wearing their yearbook t-shirts, with the uniform skirt, on the first day of the sales in each of those 3 months.
- Newsprint staff will be able to wear their Newsprint t-shirts, with the uniform skirt, on two designated distribution days during the school year.
- Students participating in the fall play or the spring musical will be able to advertise by wearing their shirts during one designated week in school (Monday-Friday).
- These additional allowances each require advance notification to and approval by the Dean of Student Affairs.

**SWEEPSTAKES DAYS:** Students out of uniform as a result of the Sweepstakes Drive incentives may wear jeans, pajama pants, or sweatpants in addition to Special Dress Day attire. It is still inappropriate to expose cleavage, mid-section, or hips and ripped clothing, shorts (of any kind without a pass), camis, and strapless tops **are not** allowed. For students with shorts passes, the requirement for shorts is fingertip length. This means standing straight up with arm and fingers straight, the shorts must be as long as the longest finger, or preferably longer. Anything shorter is a uniform violation and the student will be given a uniform skirt to wear for the day and will receive one JUG.

Violations of uniform or special dress policies will result in one JUG.