



Dress Code Policy

Guidelines

Students should arrive at school in clothing that will allow them to flourish in the learning environment and as an individual. A student's attire may not disrupt the learning of others or threaten the safety and health of the community. The Dean of Students may determine what constitutes "disruptive" to a learning environment. [M.G.L. Chapter 72 Sections 82-83](#)

When a student's attire disrupts the learning environment or threatens the safety and health of the community, the student will be asked to modify their attire. While examples are named below, modifications may also need to be made to items that are not listed.

- Students may not wear sheer clothing unless they are wearing non-sheer clothing underneath or over.
- Students may not wear items that advertise or promote drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gang activity, violence, or illegal activity.
- Students may not wear items that have lewd, profane, or obscene language or images.
- Students may not wear items that may damage school property, or harm self or others (e.g., billfold chains, spiked wristbands, cleats, steel-tipped shoes, jewelry with razor blades).
- If a student wears a hat or hood to school, they must remove it upon request of a faculty member if the faculty member finds the item to interfere with learning.

Interventions

If a student needs support following dress code guidelines, their classroom teacher or Advisor will have a 1:1 conversation with the student. The focus will be adjusting or modifying the clothing so the student's attire meets the dress code. Adjusting/modifying clothing can include, but is not limited to, turning a shirt inside out, changing clothing, having a parent/guardian bring clothing, putting on a belt, etc. The adult will not pass judgement on the student for their choice of clothing and students will not be shamed.

If a student is asked to change/modify their attire, the faculty member will reach out to parents to inform them of the incident and review the HVM dress code policy.

If a student refuses to change/modify their attire or if dress code violations become a pattern of unwanted behavior, the faculty member will report the behavior to the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will address the issue according to HVM's Code of Conduct.