Texas School of the Arts (TeSA) and its performing groups are uniformed organizations. The TeSA Dress Code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruption, minimize safety hazards, and create a sense of equality and unity on our campus. The following provides general guidelines for all students; however, each fine arts area may have more stringent dress code standards for performances or exhibitions. Students and their families are responsible for complying with these requirements. Uniform compliance is a positive learning experience for students involved in professional training and will help individual students learn specific responsibilities.

General Uniform Guidelines:
(*items with asterisk* are required items, all others are optional)

Girls:
- *Skirt (plaid #36 or khaki; worn with shorts underneath) OR Slacks (khaki; pleated or plain front)
- Jumper (plaid #36; worn with shorts underneath; worn only with Peter Pan blouse)
- Walking shorts no shorter than two inches above the knee (khaki)
- Short or long sleeve Peter Pan blouse (solid white; must be tucked in or worn under the jumper)
- *White knee hi socks

Boys:
- *Slacks (khaki; pleated or plain front)
- Walking shorts no shorter than two inches above the knee (khaki)
- *Navy socks
- *Black belt

Unisex Items:
- *Red logoed short sleeve polo
- Navy logoed short sleeve polo
- Logoed long sleeve polo (red or navy)
- Navy logoed sweatshirt (PTO fundraiser)
- Navy logoed hoodie (PTO fundraiser)
- Navy logoed cardigan sweater
- Belts (*black, solid brown, or navy blue; available from any source)
Footwear:
- *Black dress shoes
- Socks which cover the ankle, knee socks or tights must always be worn (solid navy, white, or khaki; no leggings)
- Shoes must be closed toe and closed heel (shoes should be comfortable and practical for school)
- White or navy tights—not leggings—may be worn in place of socks
- No steel-toed boots, sandals, backless, toeless shoes, or high heels

Dance Uniform:
Appropriate attire is an important component of dance because it allows the student to move freely without being restricted and it allows both the student and your instructor to see your body clearly. The instructor seeing the body clearly allows for efficient technique practice and injury prevention.

- **Top Wear:** Black T-Shirt – solid black, short sleeve with no writing. 3rd-8th grade girls may wear black leotard if desired.
- **Bottom Wear:** Jazz pants, leggings, or sweatpants (solid black only). Black shorts are permitted but must be longer than the child’s index finger when arm is extended along the side of the body. Black or pink tights may be worn under a leotard with shorts or black dance skirt.
- **Foot Wear:** Ballet shoes for dance class (black for boys, pink for girls) are required.
- **Girls’ hair should be pulled away from the face for dance. Students should come with hair ties or headbands. Hair below shoulder length must be pulled back into a ponytail (off the neck), and shorter hair needs a headband or clip for bangs.

P.E. Uniform:

- Black gym shorts (with logo from PTO fundraiser)
- Gray T-Shirt – (with logo from PTO fundraiser)
- Black Sweatshirt
- Black Sweatpants

*Athletic / tennis shoes are needed for PE

The student's dress and grooming:

- Shall not lead school officials to believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from school activities.
- Shall not create a health hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others.
- It is recommended that elementary dress be appropriate to the school day's activities. Field trips may indicate the students are to wear the required uniform items.
- Clothing which exposes the stomach and hips shall not be worn.
- Jumpers and skirts may not be hemmed shorter than two inches above kneecap.
- Student names may be monogrammed on uniform tops, except the Peter Pan blouse or jumper, including the sweatshirt, hoodie, and sweater. The monogram should be on the right side of the garment, opposite from the TeSA logo. The monogram should be no larger than the TeSA logo, in keeping with the colors of our uniform.
- Shorts MUST be worn under jumpers and skirts, but should not be visible.
- No hats or scarves are to be worn inside the building except for special days.
- Girls may wear non-distracting hair accessories in keeping with the color of our uniforms.
• No degree of sag (pants) will be permitted. Belts must be worn with any pants or skirts that have belt loops.
• Khaki slacks must be fitted at the waist with no more than four (4) pockets; two in the front and two in the back, no cargo pockets.
• Khaki must be uniform khaki color not sand, stone, tan, beige, or camouflage.
• Jewelry must be simple and discreet. Visible piercings are limited to stud earrings in one hole per ear.
• Only uniform jackets, sweatshirts, and sweaters may be worn inside the classroom. Non-uniform coats and jackets may be worn outside of the building.
• Polo shirts must be piqué knit polo shirt with ribbed collar and banded sleeves with 3 - 4 buttons.
• During cold weather months, solid colored red, white, & navy long sleeve shirts may be worn underneath uniform shirts.

Hair/Make-up (Girls):

• Hair must be a natural color and clean, maintained and combed/styled
• Extreme hairstyles are not allowed
• Students in 7th grade and up may wear discreet make-up in natural, neutral shades

Hair (Boys):

• Must be a natural color and clean, maintained and combed/styled
• Extreme hairstyles are not allowed

On certain days throughout the year, students will have spirit dress or free dress. Spirit dress consists of blue jeans and a TeSA t-shirt. The TeSA t-shirt can be one of the spirit shirts from the current or previous years. These shirts are normally sold by PTO at orientation each year. If a student does not own a TeSA spirit shirt, they can wear blue jeans and a regular navy or red uniform shirt whenever spirit dress is called for.

Free dress consists of clothing of the student’s choice, as long as it is appropriate for school. Appropriate dress consists of no short shorts, spaghetti straps, short skirts, inappropriate t-shirts, etc. Closed toe, closed heel shoes are required with free dress.

The school administration shall have the right to appraise any clothing issue. The administrator's decision shall be final. Coming to school out of dress code is a Level I misbehavior according to the TeSA disciplinary policy. Students who come to school out of uniform will be given an infraction by the classroom teacher describing any clothing that is not in compliance with the dress code. In the event of a third infraction during any six weeks, silent lunch detention will be assigned.

Thank you for your cooperation in seeing that our standards and guidelines are met.

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