

Uniform, Dress Code + Gear

We want the campus of HCA to be a safe place where young hearts and minds are protected from a world that often encourages children to grow up too quickly. Our children are growing and developing, and our standards of dress should reflect modesty.

All students (Cottage School-12th grade) will be participating in our uniform attire, and will need to wear their HCA t-shirts (or optional raglans or sweatshirts) each day they attend classes, as well as on all HCA-sponsored field trips and outings.

Shirts

ONE HCA uniform t-shirt is included in the cost of tuition and additional tees will be available for purchase at any time from the school office or via the Bookstore on our website. Uniform orders will be available for pick up at the Academy Open House prior to the start of school.

All other HCA apparel that is available in our bookstore is acceptable for daily student wear, but it is not required.

Cold weather

During the winter, we recommend long-sleeve be worn under their uniform t-shirts in the winter months ([wool is best](#) for temperature regulation and longevity, but any long sleeved shirt is fine). Students are permitted to wear cardigans (as long as the uniform logo is showing).

Pants, shorts and skirts

Students will be permitted to wear jeans (no holes or stains) and solid tan, gray, black or blue khaki pants, capris, shorts or skirts. Shorts and skirts must be below fingertips when standing. Skirts (no jumpers) must have shorts worn underneath. Thick jeggings that look like pants/jeans are permitted, but no sports leggings, yoga pants or bib overalls. Please make sure that pants, shorts or skirts are solid (free from graphics, designs or additional colors)

Shoes

Students in Cottage School - 8th grade are only permitted to wear closed toe shoes. No healties. Hiking sandals are permitted as long as the toes are covered. Highschool students are permitted to wear sandals/open toe shoes, but keep in mind that portions of the day are spent outside and the ground can be slippery and muddy.

Hats

We ask that students refrain from wearing hats in the building. However we encourage you to consider a baseball hat or sun hats for the warmer months, [like this](#). Additionally, students should have appropriate head coverings for cooler weather. Hats may have graphics as long as they are not perceived to be crude, inappropriate or promote an organization that the Director or Teachers of HCA believe are contrary to the ideals of HCA.

Outdoor Gear

Students in all grades will be going outside (in all but the most inclement weather) multiple times a day for various lengths, especially in the younger grades. They will not be taken outside if the conditions are not safe (lightning storms, wind storms/tornadic conditions, or excessive/dangerous cold). However, we will be exploring in the sun, rain and snow, so please dress them appropriately and consider investing in high quality cold weather gear.

The right outdoor clothing will directly affect the length of time that your student will be able to comfortably spend outside, and our goal at HCA is to increase their outdoor endurance as we explore, exercise, play, study and journal.

There is no bad weather, only bad clothing

Each student should have *(as weather dictates)*

- One pair of outdoor shoes/play shoes that are SEPARATE from what they wear to school.
- Raincoat with hood
- Rain boots
- **Waterproof** boots (we recommend [Muck Boots](#) or [Boggs](#), as these double as winter AND rain boots)
- Coats appropriate to the season
- Snow pants
- **Waterproof** Gloves (please no thin cotton gloves)
- Thick socks (we HIGHLY recommend [wool socks](#))
- Thick hat (not for style, but for function!)
- Balaclava

You may be able to find your cold weather gear more reasonably priced locally, and we recommend checking at Costco or Sam's Club, TJ Maxx or Marshalls for reputable brands and higher quality items at reduced costs.

HCA participates in Amazon's Associate Program.

When you purchase via our links, your price does not increase, but we do receive a small percentage of the sale!