

Dress Code Policy

Tilton's dress code is designed to support an environment of **respect, inclusion, and academic focus**, while encouraging students to express their individuality through personal style. We believe part of education is learning how to dress appropriately for various settings—whether formal, casual, academic, or professional.

General Expectations

From **breakfast through lights out** (Sunday through Saturday), students must be dressed in a way that is **neat, clean, and ready to step in and reach out**.

Must Wear During the Academic Day

- A **top** (e.g., shirt, blouse, sweater)
- A **bottom** (e.g., pants, shorts, skirt)
- **Footwear** (shoes, sneakers, or sandals)

Clothing must provide appropriate coverage of the torso, buttocks, and undergarments. Students should be dressed in a way that allows them to participate safely and comfortably in all school activities.

Not Permitted During the Academic Day or in the Dining Hall

- Pajamas or sleepwear
- Bathing suits or swimwear
- Strapless tops (e.g., tube tops)
- Clothing with excessive rips, holes, or tears
- **Hats**
- **Hoods worn up** (hoods may be worn down only)
- **Earbuds, headphones, or similar audio devices**

Note: These items can interfere with classroom engagement, communication, and safety and are therefore not allowed during the academic day or in dining areas.

Never Permitted at School

- Clothing that is visibly **unlaundered**, sweaty, or soiled
- Apparel displaying or promoting:
 - Alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances
 - Violence, hate speech, or intolerance
 - Profanity or sexually explicit content
- Clothing that intentionally reveals **private areas or underwear**
(Visible straps or waistbands are not a violation unless excessively exposed)

Special Events & Formal Occasions

Certain events (such as assemblies, guest speakers, or formal dinners) may require **elevated or formal attire**. In such cases, students will be notified in advance. Examples may include:

- Collared shirts, dress pants, skirts, dresses, or dress shoes

Enforcement

Students in violation of dress code will be given a warning directly by a faculty member and will be required to change into appropriate dress immediately. Day students should always have alternative clothing options that ensure the ability to change into appropriate attire while on-campus. This warning will also be shared with the Community Life Office. Any tardies incurred as a result of having to change in order to be in compliance with dress code will be subject to the attendance policy. Continued infractions may be met with an increased disciplinary response and considered a pattern of unwillingness or inability to abide by school rules, and considered a major school rule violation.