

Uniform and Apparel Policy 2011–2012

The purpose for The Rice School uniform is to promote an environment where students are projecting a College Bound Culture. The guidelines below cover the major aspects of our uniform policy. Students will be dressed in the official uniform every day. Students are expected to be neatly dressed and groomed at all times. Uniform Assistance is available through the counselor. Please check the school's website www.thericeschool.org

The official uniform consists of the following components:

SHIRTS

- Shirts must be purchased from The Rice School PTO. The Rice School shirts are red, white or navy blue with The Rice School emblem.
- Shirt length must not exceed below the wrists when the arms are straight down.
- Shirts that do not meet the “wrist” rule must be tucked in.
- Students are permitted to wear white undershirts or P.E. shirts under their uniform shirts.
- During cold weather students are allowed to wear long sleeve shirts under their Rice School shirt. The long sleeve shirts must match the uniform shirt for example navy uniform shirt and navy long sleeve undershirts.
- Club/Organization shirts may be worn on the day of an event or competition only with prior Administrator approval.
- Students are permitted to wear Spirit Shirts and College Shirts on Fridays Only.

SHORTS, PANTS, SLACKS and SKIRTS

- Must be solid-colored Khaki pants. The appropriate khaki color and style may be found in the uniform section at a variety of local stores.
- Properly fitted at the waist without having to use a belt and excessively baggy uniform pants will not be permitted.
- Corduroy pants, stretch pants, and khaki jean pants are not permitted.
- Khaki skirt/short length must be no shorter than 3 inches above the top of the knee all the way around.
- Khaki skirt/shorts must fit appropriately at the waist and may not be tight-fitting.
- Leggings, tights and knee high socks are permitted to be worn under skirts and shorts if they conform to the uniform colors; the length of skirt must be the same with or without leggings.
- Capri uniform pants (hem at mid-calf) are permitted.
- Cargo pants (pants with pockets on the side) are not permitted. However, uniform Dickie's pants with slim side pockets are permitted, but the side pockets must be sewn shut.
- Pant/short legs for any uniform cannot be rolled up.
- The “club” look for girls (very tight pants) and the “baggy” look for guys (low mid-seam) are not permitted.

HEAD COVERINGS

- Hats, do rags, scarves, hairnets, bandanas and any other headgear that is deemed to be a distraction to the learning environment are NOT permitted to be worn in the building.
- Headbands may be worn in the building if their purpose is to hold the hair in place and they do not distract from instruction.

SHOES

- Tennis shoes and loafers are acceptable shoes to wear.
- Safety is main concern when purchasing school shoes. The following shoes are not considered safe: Heelys, Crocs, high heel shoes, sandals, flip-flops, open back, house shoes and open toe shoes.

For more information about the uniforms visit www.ricepto.com

COATS AND OUTER GARMENTS

- Rice Logo Uniform sweatshirts/windbreakers/sweaters or plain red, white or navy blue sweatshirts/ windbreakers/ sweaters will be acceptable to wear in the building/classrooms.
- Hooded sweatshirts may be worn but students may not wear hoods inside the building.
- All other coats, jackets and sweaters may be worn into the building on cold days but must be placed in the student's locker immediately upon arrival.

P. E. UNIFORM

- Students must wear the official PE Uniform during their physical education class.
- The PE uniform must be purchased from The Rice School PTO. The PE uniform must be appropriately sized and is to be worn only during PE class. During cold weather, students may wear sweatpants (gray or navy blue) and the uniform sweatshirt with permission from the teacher.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE, MAKE-UP, BODY PIERCING, HAIR COLOR, HEAVY CHAINS, PURSES

Your appearance must not be such a distraction that it interferes with the educational process.

- Excessive make-up, body piercing other than appropriate earring(s), and hair color other than a natural shade, are not permitted.
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted
- Excessive jewelry is not allowed. Bracelets with metal spikes are not permitted. Hoop earrings can be no larger than a quarter.
- Tattoos or markings from markers, pencils, or pens on exposed skin or clothing are not allowed.
- Girls may carry a small purse; however, a good general rule on purse size is that it should be no bigger than a student planner.
- Wallet chains or spiked dog collars/wrist bands are not allowed.
- Sunglasses are not allowed.

Free Dress Day must have prior administrative approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION

The administrators will determine if any issue related to a student dress, including any not listed above, is a violation of the student dress code. Administrators will conduct random uniform checks at any time during the year. All such decisions are final. We encourage you to make a wise choice!

The purpose for The Rice School uniform is to promote an environment where students are projecting a College Bound Culture. Failure to comply with the uniform dress code will result in the appropriate consequences outlined by *HISD's Code of Student Conduct*.

CONSEQUENCES FOR DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Failure to comply with the uniform and apparel policy will result in disciplinary action. The consequences for not meeting the expectations are as follows:

- First Offense:** Referral to Middle School Administrator and phone contact with the parent. The parent will be required to bring appropriate garments BEFORE the student may return to class.
- Second Offense:** Same as above. In addition, the student will be assigned one day suspension in ISS (parent will be notified at least one day in advance).
- Third Offense:** Parent/Student/Administrator conference. Student will be assigned two day suspension in ISS (parent will be notified at least one day in advance).