

Students are expected to show respect for authority and for one another. At GFA this includes faculty, staff, and peers. A student is expected to show concern and respect for the person, rights, and possessions of others. In the classroom, students are to demonstrate self-control, compliance with the teacher's directions, and avoidance of anything that will disrupt the teaching-learning process. (see Attachment 1 for Descriptions of Violations)

DISCRIMINATION POLICY

GFA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, or its scholarship programs.

DRESS CODE

It is GFA's viewpoint that the learning and spiritual atmosphere of our school is enhanced by student and staff appearance that is neat, orderly, and in moderation. Clothing that is disorderly, non-functional and excessive in style and appearance does not uphold this conviction. We seek a higher level of purpose, that of honoring our Lord in our appearance as well as in our behavior. GFA's standard of dress is intended to honor these convictions without becoming legalistic. Some Biblical principles which GFA seeks to promote are as follows:

- We do all to the glory of God (*1Cor. 10:31*).
- We do not to offend others by being stumbling blocks (*Romans 14:13*).
- We are to be modest, reflecting decency and humility (*1Tim. 2:9, 10*).
- We are to draw attention to God, not ourselves (*John 3:30*).
- We are to do everything in love (*1Cor.16:14*).

GFA also recognizes that Christians can have convictions that differ regarding the application of Biblical principles in the area of dress. If a particular article or style of clothing is not allowed, GFA is not saying the item is wrong to wear at other times- just not to school. The standard is clearly not intended to measure individual spirituality, but rather to serve as a vehicle to promote an appropriate learning and spiritual atmosphere within our school. The cooperation of students, parents and teachers is necessary in maintaining GFA's dress standard.

Students are expected to live and conduct themselves in a manner that is pleasing to God and glorifying to the name of Jesus Christ (*II Thess. 1:11-12*). To accomplish these purposes, careful consideration has been given to factors such as comfort, safety, modesty, appropriateness, and ease of enforcement. The cooperation of students, parents, and teachers is necessary in maintaining the dress

code. (It is especially important to be mindful of this when school clothes are purchased.)

While on campus, students must be in dress code. The school administration reserves the right to make modifications to the dress code for special occasions such as field trips, spirit days, or other fun/reward situations.

Solid: The same color throughout the article of clothing. No variation of the color. e.g. ombre or tie dye

Finger-Tip Rule: The article of clothing must be at or past the tips of the students' fingertips when arms are down to their sides.

- **Pants/Shorts/Capris: Solid color khaki, black pants, or blue denim jeans.**

- Black and khaki pants may be a jean type of material.

- Dri-fit material is acceptable but must not be gym/athletic style shorts or pants.

- Pants must be worn at the waist or hips. Clothing that exposes midriffs or underwear is not acceptable.

- Pants and jeans may not have any embellishments, rips, holes, or be frayed in any way including at the ankles.

- Shorts must pass the "Finger-Tip Rule" (description above).

- Ponte uniform style jeggings in black or khaki are acceptable for girls. (Must have pockets)

- Any type of leggings, yoga pants etc. are **unacceptable** attire as primary pants.

- Solid color khaki, black, or navy blue leggings/tights** may be worn under shorts (must still meet the length requirement).

- **Skirts/Skorts/Jumpers: Solid color khaki or black uniform style with no embellishments, glitter, sequins, etc;**

- Solid color red, black, or gray polo dresses.** Hemlines, including slits, are to pass the finger-tip rule.

- Girls are encouraged to wear shorts under jumpers and skirts for modesty.

- Solid color khaki, black, or navy blue leggings/tights** may be worn under skirts/skorts/jumpers (must still meet the length requirement).

- **Shirts: Solid color red, black, or gray polo.** Standard uniform dress shirts may also be worn.

- All shirts must be plain with **NO** embellishments, logos, rhinestones, decorative stitching, etc..

- **Outerwear:** During the cooler months, **solid color red, black, or gray** jackets, sweatshirts, vests, or school issued sweatshirts may be worn.

- Logos and graphics are **NOT** acceptable unless it is GFA issued.
- Jackets and sweatshirts may be worn in the classroom but may not be worn in place of the uniform polo shirt.
- Outdoor rain/snow jackets may have patterns. They may not be worn in the classroom.
- **Footwear:**
 - Tennis shoes, dress shoes, and sandals with a back strap are acceptable. Laces must be tied securely.
 - No heels higher than 1 inch.
 - No cros, flip-flops, slippers or shoes with wheels.**
 - Tall graphic socks are not to be visible and may only be worn under pants or on free dress day.
- **Hats/Caps/Beanies/Bandanas/Kerchiefs:** May be worn outdoors only and must be taken off when entering buildings and during prayer and pledge.
- **Girls:** Excessive cosmetics are not allowed (includes face glitter). Jewelry should be kept to a minimum. Earrings should not hang but be solid posts. This protects ears during PE and recess. Body piercing is not permitted. No tattoos (permanent or temporary) are allowed.
- **Boys:** No earrings, excessive jewelry, chains or studded bracelets. No tattoos (permanent or temporary) are allowed.
- **Hair:** Hair for both girls and boys is to be neat and clean. **No extreme cuts or unnatural colors are permitted.**
- Any attire not specifically covered in this policy is not allowed.
- **Book bags, hats, notebooks, sweatshirts, or other paraphernalia with inappropriate messages or pictures are not allowed.**

Thursday Dress Code:

- Regular uniform Dress Code
- Any GFA issued T-shirt with jeans or jean shorts (no embellishments, rips, holes, or frays of any kind)

Free Dress Day (See Page 21)

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

The Administration will enforce the dress standard; however, it is NOT the sole responsibility of the school. We expect parents to cooperate in monitoring their student's daily attire to assure compliance with the dress standard.

Classroom teachers are asked to monitor their students' adherence to the GFA dress standard. Violations will follow the escalating consequences for Category I offenses.

EARLY PICK UP

If your child is to be picked up during the day, please first report to the school office. **Do not** go directly to the classroom to get your child. When the parent arrives in the office, the teacher will be called and the parent sent to the classroom to pick up the student. If someone other than the parent is to pick up a child that is not on his/her pick-up list, the office must receive a note from a parent/guardian prior to the releasing of the child, or the parent must call the office giving definite verification of the individual that is picking up their child.

FIELD TRIPS

Classes take trips to interesting and educational places as a vital part of the instructional program. Student fees for up to 2 field trips per year are included in the tuition fee (not including meals and the FMSC service trip). Parents are notified in advance and are encouraged to help chaperone. All volunteer drivers must have the online volunteer screening completed, and a copy of their driver's license and current insurance card on file in the school office at least one week prior to the field trip. The Attendance/Tardy Policy is in effect even on field trip days.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS (Pending Changes)

A limited amount of student financial aid is available. Eligibility is based on the financial need of the family as well as the academic, citizenship, and positive spiritual impact of the student. Additional information is available in the school office.

School Tuition Organizations (STOs) are established to receive income tax credit contributions that fund scholarships for students to attend qualified private schools. Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO) and School Choice Arizona scholarships are awarded based on recommendations, financial circumstances, and the personal narrative. School Choice Arizona also has scholarships for low-income, disabled and displaced students. Many GFA families receive tuition scholarship funds through these organizations. Information on these and other STO scholarships is available in the school office and on our website.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

GFA is a ministry of Grace Fellowship Church to Christian families. Our support comes through tuition and private donations. Various fundraising projects are conducted to help offset operating costs, capital improvements, special activities, and projects. All voluntary contributions are income tax deductible and may qualify for employer/employee matching donations.

FREE DRESS DAY

The last Thursday of each month will be a free dress day for all students. However, the items of clothing must still abide by the standards set by the school. This means all clothes must be modest in nature and there should be no inappropriate words or pictures on the clothes.

-Tank tops, spaghetti straps, halter tops and backless tops would all be considered not acceptable for our campus.

-”Sleeveless” shirts must have a 3-inch wide or larger strap.

-Jeans, pants, or shorts may not have any rips, holes, or frays of any kind.

- Any type of leggings, yoga pants etc. are **unacceptable** attire as primary pants.

-**Solid color** leggings/tights may be worn under shorts.

-Shorts, skirts, dresses, jumpers, etc. are to pass the “finger-tip rule” described under dress code.

-Jogger style sweatpants, and athletic wear is acceptable but must be modest in nature and not resemble PJs.

-No PJs on free dress day.

GRADING

Grades are the record of a student’s achievement in school and their importance is obvious. The following is a description of the grading system used at GFA.

A grade in a course of study represents the teacher’s best judgment of a student’s academic achievement. Various components such as class participation, projects, reports, homework assignments, tests, quizzes, etc., may be assigned different weights by individual teachers. The grade assigned represents a student’s achievement in relationship to the expectation of the teacher of that particular subject.

The Letter Grading Scale will be used in the following subjects: Bible, Reading, Arithmetic, Language Arts, Spelling, Science, and History. The Effort Grading Scale will be used for Obedience, Self-Control, Responsibility, Effort, and Cooperation, all Specials classes and all subjects for Kindergarten.