

Uniform and Dress Code Required. Uplift Education (“Uplift”) scholars are required to wear, and adhere to, a prescribed uniform and dress code that sets appropriate standards for grooming and personal appearance. Uplift believes that a uniform and dress code contributes to a positive and safe school culture and fosters a spirit of teamwork in the school, and broader Uplift network, community. Each Uplift school may develop and issue a uniform and dress code unique to that school, subject to the approval of the CEO, or CEO’s designee.

COVID-19.

- **Definitions.** As used in this policy, the term “masks” is defined by the Texas Education Agency (“TEA”) “to include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth. Face shields may be superior to cloth face coverings in many circumstances, given improved ability to see mouth movements and improved air circulation.”
- **1st Grade and Above.**
 - In accordance with State and federal orders and guidelines, all Uplift scholars in 1st grade and above are required to wear masks as part of the mandatory uniform and dress code of each Uplift school. In support of this requirement and in an effort to assist our scholars and families, Uplift will be providing each scholar with one mask and one face shield for the 2020-2021 school year. Scholars may elect to wear a mask or face shield provided or may elect to wear another face covering that meets the “mask” definition above.
 - Given the direct health and safety threat to other scholars and staff of not wearing a mask, as evidenced through State and federal orders and guidance, a parent or guardian who believes it is not developmentally appropriate, or otherwise does not wish, regardless of reason, for his or her scholar to wear a mask shall be required to utilize remote instruction for that scholar. No Uplift scholar in 1st grade or above shall be permitted on any Uplift campus without wearing a mask, and may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct for any violation of this policy in the same manner as any other violation of the uniform and dress code.
- **Kindergarten and Below.** In accordance with State and federal orders and guidelines, it is not considered developmentally appropriate for scholars in Kindergarten and below to wear masks. These scholars are not required to wear a mask as part of the mandatory uniform and dress code.
- **Other Considerations.** Parents or guardians of scholars who are or may be unable to meet this requirement due to a disability should contact their campus Special Education or 504 Coordinator.

CEO Authority. The CEO, or CEO's designee, may change, revise, or alter a school's uniform or dress code at any time. The CEO, or CEO's designee, may change, revise, alter, or remove completely, the COVID-19 mask requirement so long as such decision is made in accordance with State and federal orders and guidelines.

Violations of the Uniform and Dress Code. Each scholar is responsible for his or her compliance with the uniform and dress code at all times. Violations of the uniform and dress code may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.