

UNIFORM REGULATIONS / DRESS CODE

Sarasota Military Academy Prep is, as the name implies, an institution where military traditions and customs are an important part of the experience. Cadets are required to wear and care for the uniforms properly. The uniform will be worn in accordance with standards outlined in this handbook which are similar to those of the military and JROTC programs. When the uniform is worn, whether on or off campus, it will be worn completely and not mixed with clothing/shoes not outlined in this dress code or without **required** items such as belts, nametags, epaulets, etc.

Uniform inspections will be conducted in formation and at any time throughout the day. Cadets and parents must understand that this uniform represents SMA Prep's high standards and must be worn with proper respect. Cadets may not play sports or be involved in any work detail while in the SMA Prep Dress Uniform, nor may they engage in any conduct that would bring embarrassment or disgrace to the uniform or SMA Prep. Further, the uniform may not be worn to promote political causes or at partisan political organizations' events. Cadets may NOT wear SMA Uniforms while performing fundraising activities.

Uniforms are available for purchase from Children's World Uniform store. Visit the store on Bee Ridge Rd. or visit their website (www.childrensworlduniform.com) to check prices, sizes, and/or to place orders. Gently-used uniforms are available in limited sizes and quantities. Please call the office to make an appointment to purchase gently-used items. Spirit wear is available for purchase through the school.

SMA Prep Uniform Schedule

Monday	Camouflage Uniform only
Tuesday	Class 'B' Dress Uniform only
Wednesday	Class 'B' Dress Uniform only
Thursday	Camouflage Uniform only
Friday:	Class 'B' or Optional Polo/Spirit Uniform (Student choice)
Physical Education Classes:	PE uniform

Class 'B' Dress Uniform: (authorized for wear on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays)

- Light blue Oxford shirt (Children's World)
- Dark blue slacks (Children's World)
- White t-shirt or camisole (optional) from a store of your choice
- Black belt (Children's World)
- All Black Crew Length socks (mid-calf) (no logos or colors) from a store of your choice
- All Black sneakers or boat shoes with black laces from a shoe store of your choice
- Name tag, crest, epaulets, ribbons (when earned) are provided by the Academy; lost or damaged items must be immediately replaced by purchasing through the school.
- Uniform Devices and Belt Wear

- Nametag:** Centered on the right pocket flap, 1/8 inch below the top edge
- SMA Prep Crest:** Centered above the right pocket flap, 1/8 inch above the top edge
- Ribbons:** Centered 1/8" above the left pocket flap, in order of precedence
- Belt:** Tip of the belt should be to the left side of the buckle, buckled in the center hole, length adjusted with the belt slide.

Only plain white undergarments (no writing of any kind on the t-shirt), may be worn under the dress shirt. The wear of an undershirt or camisole is optional. No long sleeve shirts may be worn under the dress shirt. Undergarment sleeves may not extend beyond the uniform shirt. The shirt must be tucked in neatly at all times and the top button must be unbuttoned. Only plain black crew length socks that reach mid-calf (no skin visible beneath hem) may be worn with the Dress Uniform.

Camouflage Uniform (Camo): (authorized for wear on Mondays and Thursdays)

- Khaki Shirt (Children's World)
- Woodlands Camouflage Pants (Children's World)
- Black belt (same belt as dress uniform) (Children's World)
- All Black crew length socks (mid-calf) (no logos or colors) from a store of your choice
- All Black sneakers or military style black boots with black laces from a shoe store of your choice (no boat or dress shoes).

Only plain (no writing of any kind on the t-shirt), white undergarments may be worn under the shirt. The wear of an undershirt or camisole is optional. Undergarment sleeves may not extend beyond the uniform shirt. The shirt must be tucked in neatly at all times. Camo pants may not be bloused or tucked into shoes/boots. Only plain black crew length socks that reach mid-calf (no skin visible beneath hem) may be worn with the Camo Uniform.

Optional - Polo/Spirit Uniform: (authorized to wear on Fridays only)

- SMA Polo Shirts - navy blue with gold sides (Children's World)
- Spirit Shirts - Must be purchased through school (no PE or Camo shirts)
- Pants or shorts - dark blue (Children's World)
- White t-shirt or camisole (optional) from a store of your choice
- Black belt (same belt as dress uniform) (Children's World)
- Black socks from a store of your choice
- Any boat shoes or color sneakers with any color laces from a shoe store of your choice (No shoes with wheels/rollers or light-up shoes allowed).

Shorts and pants must rest at the natural waist of the cadet; no more than 2 inches below the navel. Trouser hems must be no more than 2 inches above the welt (heel) of the shoe. Shorts must not extend below the knee and must be hemmed no more than 4 inches above the knee. Shorts and pants must have at least 1 inch of free play (without pulling) in the garment at the hips and legs. Shorts may NOT be rolled up.

The bottom button of the polo shirt must be buttoned, the top button unbuttoned. Only plain (no writing of any kind on the t-shirt) white undergarments may be worn under the shirt. The wear of an undershirt or camisole is optional. Undergarment sleeves may not extend beyond the uniform shirt. The shirt must be tucked in neatly at all times.

Shoes must match, be *TIED properly*, and may not be defaced in any way. Jewelry, makeup and nail polish standards *are the same as with the SMA Prep Dress Uniform*. (See jewelry, make up, and nail polish policy). Females may wear hair down with the polo/spirit uniform.

PE Uniform:

- Light blue t-shirt (Children's World)
- Dark blue shorts (Children's World)
- Black socks (crew length/ mid-calf) from a store of your choice
- Any color sneakers with any color laces from shoe store of your choice
- Only the SMA Prep PE Uniforms are authorized for PE classes. The PE uniform may not be worn under other uniforms.

Black Jacket (from Children's World) -or- (Sweatshirt/Hoodie (from Children's World while supplies last)

- Black jacket with embroidered SMA logo.
- Navy blue sweatshirt with zipper, hood, and SMA Prep logo. (The navy blue sweatshirt is being phased out and will not be used after the 2021-2022 school year.)

The SMA Prep Jacket/Sweatshirt is the **ONLY** authorized jacket worn with any of the SMA Prep uniforms (dress, camo, polo/spirit, or PE uniforms). The SMA Prep Jacket/Sweatshirt may only be worn outside on designated "cold weather" days and is authorized for wear inside the classrooms/buildings with the teacher's permission. Jacket/Sweatshirts may only be worn zippered $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up, with the sleeves and hood down. On the Black Jacket the zipper must be at least as high as the SMA logo. Sleeves may not be rolled or pushed up. Sweatshirts may not be draped around the neck, tied around the waist or have the hood strings tied. If the sweatshirt is designated as unserviceable (worn, holes, tears) and does not display a neat military appearance the cadet will be responsible to replace it with the new Black Jacket.

Jacket Days - Formation Only

A "Jacket Day" (yellow flag) is determined by administration using guidelines based on the temperature being below 70 degrees during formation, but not being cold enough to be designated as a "Cold-Weather Day". During a Jacket Day, cadets may wear their SMA Prep jackets/sweatshirt during formation in accordance with appropriate wear guidelines.

Cold Weather Outerwear Policy for Designated Days

On days when the weather is predicted to be a "Cold-Weather Day" (red flag) (approximately 50 degrees or below), the Head of School or designee may implement the Cold-Weather Outerwear Policy giving cadets two options: 1) (preferred) Wear an additional layer (such as a

zippered sweater) under the SMA Prep Jacket/Sweatshirt, 2) Wear a conservative, plain black or dark colored coat or jacket as outerwear. No hooded jackets or sweaters are allowed. Families are asked to do their best to provide conservative, plain black or dark colored coats/jackets when possible. Sweatshirts/hoodies other than the SMA Prep sweatshirt are prohibited as the outermost layer on cold weather days. Cold-Weather Days apply to SMA Prep dress uniform, camo uniform, and polo/spirit uniform. The following guidance is provided for Cold-Weather Days:

- Outerwear (coats/jackets) must be worn fully closed (buttoned, zipped, or snapped).
- Multiple coats/jackets (layering) are authorized to include rain coats. If layering with a sweatshirt, only the SMA Prep jacket/sweatshirt is allowed as the outermost layer. All hoods must be tucked into the jacket or outer layer.
- Outerwear (coats/jackets) are to be worn outside only.
- When the cadet enters a classroom, jackets are removed, the outerwear (coats/jackets) should be placed on the back of the cadet's seat or in his/her backpack. Only the SMA jacket/sweatshirt may be worn in class. Cadets are also authorized to wear hats, gloves, and scarves on designated cold-weather days during formation only.

Care and Maintenance of Uniforms

Standards to be met while in uniform include maintaining the uniform in a clean and serviceable condition. After initial purchase of all uniforms, it is the cadets'/parents'/guardians' responsibility to properly maintain the uniforms. This includes: laundering, alterations, dry cleaning, sewing on lost buttons, necessary mending, replacement of broken zippers, and repair of torn/loose hems. Uniforms deemed to be in disrepair must be replaced.

Lost/broken items:

- "Frogs" (pin clasps) and nametag backings are available at the front desk, the Eagles Nest (during lunch), Homeroom Teachers and Military Studies using "Eagle Points"
- Reorder lost epaulets (\$9), crests (\$4) , nametags (\$4) and ribbons (\$1.50) at the front desk

Headphones/Earbuds/Independent Reading Books

Required to be in cadet's backpack every day. Failure to have these items daily may result in an infraction.

GROOMING STANDARDS

Hairstyles

Extreme, eccentric, or faddish haircuts/hairstyles are not authorized. If dyes, tints, or bleaches are used, they must result in a NATURAL hair color. Hair cannot be more than one color.

Male Haircut and Shaving

Male cadets must keep the hair on top neatly groomed. Extreme, eccentric, or faddish haircuts or hairstyles are NOT authorized. Further, the hair must not touch the ears or the collar of the Dress Uniform shirt. In any case, the length cannot exceed 2 inches (or less if hair is thick). The hair must present a TAPERED appearance. Also, inappropriate styles that result in shaved portions of the scalp (other than the neckline) or designs cut into the hair are prohibited. If hair is not within standards cadets may be prohibited from attending class, until it is within standards.

Males will be clean-shaven; however, they may have sideburns. If worn, sideburns will not extend below the bottom of the ear opening, and they are NOT allowed to end in a “point”; they must end with a solid horizontal cut that is not angled. Sideburns will not be tapered or flared. The length of sideburn hairs when extended will not exceed 1/8 of an inch. Mustaches are permitted; if worn, males will keep mustaches neatly trimmed, tapered, and tidy. No portion of the mustache will cover the upper lip line or extend sideways beyond the corners of the mouth. Male fingernails may not extend past the tip of the finger.

Female Hair Standards

Many female hairstyles are acceptable, if they are neat and conservative. Extreme, eccentric, or trendy haircuts or hairstyles are not authorized. If cadets use dyes, tints or bleaches, they must choose those that result in natural hair colors (not two-tone styles.) Additionally, females will ensure that hair is neatly groomed, that the length and bulk of the hair are not excessive, and that the hair does not present a ragged, unkempt, or extreme appearance. Females may wear braids if the braided style is conservative, the braids lie closely on the head, and any hair-holding devices comply with the standards below.

Examples of hairstyles considered to be faddish or exaggerated and therefore prohibited for wear with the SMA Prep uniform, include, but are not limited to, shaved portions of the scalp other than the neckline, designs cut in the hair, and unbalanced or LOPSIDED hairstyles are prohibited. Widely spaced individual hanging locks, and other extreme styles that protrude from the head are prohibited. Foreign material (beads and decorative items) may not be woven into the braids. “Twists” are unauthorized (except French Twists.) Hair extensions are authorized; however, they must have the same general appearance as the natural hair and conform to the above regulations.

Hair-holding devices are authorized only for securing the hair. Cadets will not place hair-holding devices in the hair for decorative purposes. All hair-holding devices must be plain and of a color as close to the cadet's hair as is possible or clear (e.g., a blonde may wear brown or clear hair-holding devices). Authorized devices include, but are not limited to, barrettes, combs, pins, clips, thin (1" or less) headbands, or elastic bands. Devices that are conspicuous, excessive, or decorative are prohibited. Some examples of prohibited devices include, but are not limited to, "scrunchies," beads, bows, claw-clips, wide headbands, and barrettes with butterflies, flowers, sparkles, gems, or scalloped edges or in colors not closely matching the hair.

For further explanation, the female hair standards are broken into three different categories:

(a) Short length. Short hair is defined as hair length that extends no more than 1 inch from the scalp (excluding bangs). Hair may be no shorter than 1/4 inch from the scalp (unless due to medical condition or injury), but may be evenly tapered to the scalp within 2 inches of the hairline. Bangs, if worn, may not fall below the eyebrows, may not interfere with the wear of all headgear, must lie neatly against the head, and not be visible underneath the front of the headgear. The width of the bangs may extend to the hairline at the temple.

(b) Medium length. Medium hair is defined as hair length that does not extend beyond the lower edge of the collar (in all uniforms), and extends more than 1 inch from the scalp. Medium hair may fall naturally in uniform, and is not required to be secured. When worn loose, graduated hairstyles are acceptable, but the length, as measured from the end of the total hair length to the base of the collar, may not exceed 1 inch difference in length, from the front to the back. Layered hairstyles are also authorized, so long as each hair's length, as measured from the scalp to the hair's end, is generally the same length giving a tapered appearance. The regulations for the wear of bangs detailed in paragraph (a), above, apply. No portion of the bulk of the hair, as measured from the scalp, will exceed 2 inches.

(c) Long length. Long hair is defined as hair length that extends beyond the lower edge of the collar. Long hair will be neatly and inconspicuously fastened or pinned, except that bangs may be worn. The regulations for the wear of bangs detailed in paragraph (a), apply. No portion of the bulk of the hair, as measured from the scalp, will exceed 2 inches (except a bun, which may extend a MAXIMUM of 3 inches from the scalp) and be NO WIDER than the width of the head. Buns must be located on the back of the head so that the top of the bun does not protrude higher than the top of the head.

(d) Ponytail. If worn, hair will be neatly and inconspicuously fastened or secured in either a bun, single ponytail, two braids or a single braid. Multiple locks, braids, twists or cornrows may come together in one or two braids or a single ponytail. Braids and singular ponytails may be worn down the center of the back in all uniforms, but length will not extend past the bottom of the shoulder blades while at the position of attention. There is no minimum length for the wear of a ponytail or braid. All other requirements regarding hair holding devices and bangs remain in effect.

Jewelry Standards

While in any uniform, females may wear post-type earrings in gold, silver, white pearl, or diamond. The earrings will not exceed 6mm or 1/4inch in diameter; they must be unadorned and spherical (round). The ONLY body piercings allowed for females are earrings which may only be worn in the lowest piercing in the ear lobe. No other earrings are authorized. Males may not wear earrings while in uniform. Face piercing of any type, tongue rings, belly rings, and ear gauges are strictly prohibited. **Cadets who get new piercings during the school year that are not in compliance with the uniform policy must remove them immediately; they cannot be covered up by Band-Aids, etc.** We suggest you get new piercings during the summer months, so they have time to heal and don't necessitate posts to keep them open.

Both males and females may wear necklaces **IF** they are not visible in any uniform and the chain is no larger than the Army ID tags chain. No bracelets are allowed while in uniform. Both males and females may wear one ring per hand and a wrist watch: These must be conservative and not detract from the appearance of the uniform (no large or colorful rings and watches – you may only wear black, gold, or silver watches, or military in appearance, that are not oversized or ornate).

Cosmetic and Nail Polish Standards

Tattoos and Henna designs may not be visible while on campus and in uniform. Cadets are not to write or draw on their skin.

Females Nail Polish: The only types of nail polish that are authorized are clear and natural color (nail bed tone) nail polish. French tips are authorized, however the tip must be white only. Nails are to be rounded, neatly trimmed and not to extend beyond a ¼ inch from the end of the nail bed, if wearing french tips the white tip may not exceed ¼ inch.

Female Makeup: Makeup may be worn if it is conservative and complement the uniform and complexion. Eccentric, exaggerated, or trendy cosmetic styles and colors are prohibited. Some examples of extreme makeup colors include, but are not limited to, purple, gold, silver, blue, black, white, red, camouflage colors, fluorescent colors, glitter and painted designs. False eyelashes are prohibited.

Males: Clear nail polish may be worn however, makeup is prohibited.

Eyewear

Eyewear, including sunglasses, that is trendy or has lenses or frames with conspicuous initials, designs, or other adornments is not authorized. Cadets will not attach chains or ribbons to their eyewear. Glasses may not be worn on top of the head at any time. Sunglasses are not authorized in formation, without a prescription.

Backpacks

Handbags, backpacks, and book bags will be conservative and professional in appearance. Advertising, cartoons, or other commercial designs are not authorized. Cadets are not authorized to write on their backpacks.

Face-masks

Face-masks may be worn at the discretion of the cadet. However, face-masks must be solid black or navy blue in color. Disposable masks that are light blue or masks sold by SMA are also authorized.

Water Bottles

Water Bottles must be clear and colorless. Water is the only drink cadets are allowed to have on campus outside of the lunch room during the school day.

Hats

Hats, berets, or other headgear are NOT authorized for wear with any uniform at SMA Prep EXCEPT for specially designated programs, such as the SMA Prep Drill Team.

SPECIAL DRESS DAYS

There will be occasions when students will be allowed to dress up, dress down, or wear special clothing for a dance or other event. Please keep in mind that SMA continues to have high standards for appearance, even when not wearing a uniform. All clothing must be tasteful and appropriate. Cadets not dressed in accordance with guidelines will be sent to the office until the parent brings appropriate clothing.

- ☐ **Clothing may not be ripped, torn, or have holes**, except when part of a special costume.
- ☐ **No skin-tight clothing**, with the exception of leggings, which may ONLY be worn with a dress, skirt, or shorts.
 - ☐ No inappropriate writing or signs on clothing, such as anything pertaining to drugs, alcohol, profanity, nudity, or anything controversial or suggestive.
- ☐ Pants, shorts, and skirts must sit at the waist.
- ☐ Skirts, dresses, & shorts may not be higher than 4 inches above knee and must be hemmed.
- ☐ No pajamas, slippers, hats, or baggy pants.
- ☐ If wearing a hoodie, the hood must remain down and is not to cover the head.
- ☐ No spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, tube tops, or tank tops.
- ☐ Shoulders and back must be covered.
- ☐ No midriffs or cleavage showing.
- ☐ The same jewelry and make-up standards apply as with wear of the uniform.
- ☐ Male cadets must be clean shaven.
- ☐ Shoes must be closed toe with heels no greater than 2".