

DRESS CODE POLICY

The purpose of the dress code is to provide a modest appearance. While we realize that the Bible does not specifically tell us how we should dress or how our hair should be cut, it does give us some principles to follow. In light of these principles, we must set guidelines for our school. Our goal is to encourage the wearing of modest clothes (Rom. 12:1-2). This goal is built around the following principles:

- Clothing not too tight or too baggy
- No undergarments showing at any time
- No back or midriff showing in any position
- Clothes should have no rips or tears that show skin or undergarments

Students should keep in sight the central truth that they should conduct themselves in a way that pleases God and glorifies the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Cleanliness, neatness, and appropriateness for the occasion are expected.

It is important that the dress code is in effect at all school-related activities as well as during the school day.

The cooperation of the student, their parent(s), and the faculty in accepting and maintaining this code will greatly enhance the school's effectiveness in serving its stated purposes as a Christian school. The dress code is not solely the responsibility of the school, but also of the parents. Parents are expected to cooperate with the school in seeing that their students meet the dress code.

Clothes

Pants – Dress slacks, cords, or jeans must be clean, neat and not tight-fitting (NO holes or stains). Only **nylon** sweatpants are allowed. Velour pants are also allowed. Fleece pants are not allowed (except for P.E. and athletic practice). Flannel pants are **not** allowed. Pants or shorts that have letters or extreme color contrast on the backside are not allowed. If baggy pants/shorts are worn, then a belt must secure the pant/shorts. Pants must be modest-fitting and appropriate in length (no dragging) and not too tight.

Shorts – Students may wear shorts. Length should be approximately halfway between the crotch and the top of the knee. No biking shorts are allowed.

Shirts – Sloppy sweatshirts, white T-shirts (designed to be worn as an undergarment), and tank tops may not be worn (see athletic wear). T-shirts designed to be worn as an outer garment are allowed. Shirts may not be imprinted with questionable or offensive messages or pictures. All shirts with tails must be tucked in. Shirts with buttons must be buttoned except for the top shirt button and the sleeve buttons, unless the shirt is worn as an over shirt. Shirts should be neat-fitting (i.e. not sloppy or excessive in length).

Girls – Shirts, skirts/dresses - Halter, tube and crop tops and spaghetti-strap dresses/tops (see formal wear) are not to be worn. Tight-fitting, clinging shirts and blouses may not be worn. Sleeveless tops and dresses may be worn with no undergarments showing, so armhole and neckline cuts should be small. Appropriate shirts will prevent the exposure of the midriff and the small of the back in any position. Any sheer top or one you can see through needs to have a modest shirt underneath it (i.e. no spaghetti straps.) Shirts should have finished edges at neckline, sleeve holes and bottom edge. The outer shirt needs to cover the top edge of the student's pants. Skirts and dresses must be no more than 3" above the knee (measured from the bent knee) and not tight-fitting. Dress or skirt slits may not exceed 3" above the knee.

Hats/Visors – Caps and visors are to be worn outside only. Girls coordinating hats may be worn.

Outdoor Wear – No heavy coats may be worn in the classroom.

P.E. – All students must have separate clean gym shoes. Grades 7-12 will wear required P.E. attire of shorts/sweatpants and t-shirt.

Extracurricular Sports Activity Wear - Cheerleading/Drill team skirts may be 6" above the knee when worn with matching tillies. Athletes' shorts should follow school dress code, but tank tops may be worn (with no undergarments showing). Game day dress will be as referenced in Athletic Handbook.

Formal Wear - Homecoming Banquet is a formal event.

Gentlemen: Dress in a tie, dress shirt, and suit jacket, dress slacks and shoes. (No Tennis Shoes) Some guys like to rent a tux.

Ladies: Dresses are to be modest and respectable formal wear. (No backless, strapless, minis or plunging necklines)

Please advise any guests you bring of these guidelines. Those with unacceptable apparel may be dismissed from the banquet.

Hair

No extreme style (i.e. Mohawks) and no unnatural color extremes are allowed (a style that has the only purpose of drawing attention to one's self). Hair should be kept out of eyes. Boy's hair should not be covering the earlobes and should be above the collar. No facial hair, except sideburns (cannot go below the earlobe), are allowed.

Shoes- Sandals may be worn in warm weather without socks. Flip-flops designed for beachwear or swimming pool shoes may NOT be worn by DK-6th grade during school hours for the purpose of playground safety. Students may not be barefooted or sock footed in school, shoes must be worn. Be sure to have safe and protective shoes for recess.

Jewelry and Accessories

No excessive or extreme jewelry/accessories are allowed. Body piercing is not allowed. Tattoos are not allowed. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings to school or school functions. Girls may have pierced ears but may wear only one earring per ear. Neck and wrist chains re allowed to be worn to school and school functions as long as they are not extreme or offensive in nature. No other chains are allowed.

Chapel Dress

Students are to wear dress attire on weekly chapel days. Chapel dress must be worn the entire school day.

Boys must wear a shirt with a collar, a turtleneck, mock turtleneck, or nice sweater. All shirts must be tucked in. Denim slacks or jeans are not allowed. Boys are to wear nice pants and elementary boys may wear dress shorts only during hot weather in August, September, and May.

Girls are to wear a dress, skirt or dress slacks with a nice top or sweater.

Belts are required with looped pants on chapel days for both girls and boys in 2nd grade and up.

Special Dress may be requested at times throughout the school year (music programs, speech meets, science fairs, field trips, etc.).

Outerwear

ACA wants students to be outside as much as possible (weather permitting), therefore, students need to have:

- Jackets or sweaters on cooler days.
- Heavy winter coats, hats, and gloves on cold days.
- Boots on snowy days.
- Snow pants to play in the snow.

The administrator will have final authority as to appropriateness of dress per these guidelines.

Violations of Dress Code

1st Violation: Call to student's attention and written notification given to student and duplicate copy filed in the office.

2nd Violation: Notification sent home to parents and must be signed by parents and returned to office.

3rd Violation: Phone call to parents by Administrator or assigned detention.

Extreme violations or repeat offenses of dress code may be handled at the discretion of the administrator.