

# School Dress Expectations

## Dress Code Philosophy

Our dress code philosophy asks that everyone's personal appearance be decent, appropriate, and neat. We wish to reflect our Christian ideals in all areas of living, including personal appearance. We would hope that people who enter our school would see our students presenting themselves in a manner that reflects Christian ideals and practice, and we feel that appropriate dress helps promote such ideals. Our dress code is designed to maintain a standard needed to promote the appropriate atmosphere for learning and yet to allow for individual differences. Attire should not distract from the objectives of the school day which are to attend to instruction, to participate in activities, and to glorify God in all we do. Even though "the Lord looks on the heart, ... man looks on the outward appearance." [1 Samuel 16:7 NIV] Paul says to "abstain from all appearance of evil" [1 Thessalonians 5:22 KJV], and to "dress modestly, with decency....." [1 Timothy 2:9 NIV] Some styles of dress may send incorrect messages to others that do not align with our Christian confession of faith. A Christian's dress is not to distract from the Gospel. This dress code has been designed to give guidance in the purchase of school clothes and to assist in daily dress decisions.

**In keeping with our Christian philosophy and values, we have deemed some types of wearing apparel are acceptable while some are not. The following guidelines are provided:**

### ***APPROVED DRESS LIST,***

#### ***Grades K - 4***

**PANTS** – Wear neat-looking pants that are Docker-style pants, cotton/polyester/cloth-type material, or jeans. Pants must be neatly hemmed and not dragging on the floor. Capri pants are allowed. Logos cannot be distracting or inappropriate, or placed in inappropriate places (as across the seat of the pants). Children in grades K – 4 may wear sweat pants and windsuits, EXCEPT ON CHAPEL DAY. Pants must be worn to fit so that one's midsection or underwear is not exposed at anytime. No sagging, oversized or pants that are too small will not be allowed.

#### **TOPS, SHIRTS, BLOUSES –**

**Boys:** Polo style knit shirts or other shirts with collars are encouraged for daily wear. Shirts should be neat and fit properly.

**Girls:** Blouses and tops should be worn which cover the stomach, chest, back, and some of the shoulder. No tightfitting or revealing garments are allowed. No spaghetti straps (unless part of layered clothing); no halter tops or off-the-shoulder tops or clothing that exposes the midriff or undergarments are permitted.

T-shirts and sweatshirts are permitted (except for chapel) if they do not have undesirable slogans or designs which depict alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence, or which are disrespectful, demeaning,

or derogatory. Shirts that are long and sloppy will have to be tucked in.

**SHORTS** – Same types of material and fitting rules as for pants. No spandex. Should be no shorter than fingertip length and neatly hemmed. Visible logos cannot be distracting or inappropriate, or placed in inappropriate places (as across the seat of the shorts.) Shorts must be worn to fit so that one's midsection or underwear is not exposed at any time. No sagging or oversized shorts are allowed.

**DRESSES, SKIRTS, & SKORTS** - Should have hems no shorter than 3 inches above the kneecap.

**SHOES** - Must be worn and should cover the whole foot for safety reasons. Tennis/athletic shoes, loafers, flats (heels not higher than 1¼"), velcro or lace-up style shoes are good. Shoes that require laces must have laces and the laces must not be dangling. Sandals must cover the foot well and have a back strap. Any flip-flop style, and cleats are not allowed.

**SOCKS** - Must be worn with all shoes, with the exception of wearing sandals during shorts season.

**COATS/JACKETS** - Should be worn during cold weather. They should be taken off in the classroom.

**BOOTS** - Are expected for K - 4 children during the snowy season for wear on the playground. When in school after recesses, shoes must replace the boots.

**CAPS** – Caps, hats, bandannas, sweatbands, and outdoor headwear may not be worn in the building. Caps are only needed for outside recess times.

**ALSO** - No sunglasses in school. Ear piercing is the only visible piercing allowed, and no unsafe or dangling earrings are allowed.

## ***APPROVED DRESS LIST, Grades 5 – 8***

**PANTS** – Wear neat-looking pants that are Dockers-style pants, cotton/polyester/cloth-type material, or jeans. Pants must be neatly hemmed and not dragging on the floor. Capri pants are allowed. Visible logos cannot be distracting or inappropriate, or placed in inappropriate places (as across the seat of the pants). Pants must be worn to fit so that one's midsection or underwear is not exposed at any time (standing, bending, stretching, or sitting). No sagging, oversized or pants that are too small will not be allowed.

### **TOPS, SHIRTS, BLOUSES –**

**Boys:** Polo style knit shirts or other shirts with collars are encouraged for daily wear. Shirts should be neat and fit properly.

**Girls:** Blouses and tops should be worn which cover the stomach, chest, back, and some of the shoulder. No tightfitting or revealing garments are allowed. No spaghetti straps (unless part of layered clothing); no halter tops or off-the-shoulder tops or clothing that exposes the midriff or undergarments are permitted. T-shirts and sweatshirts are permitted (except for chapel) if they do not have undesirable slogans or designs which depict alcohol, drugs, tobacco, violence, or which are disrespectful, demeaning, or derogatory. Shirts that are long and sloppy will have to be tucked in.

**SHORTS** – Same types of material and fitting rules as for pants. No spandex. Should be no shorter than mid-thigh and neatly hemmed.

Visible logos cannot be distracting or inappropriate, or placed inappropriately (as across the seat of the shorts.) Shorts must be worn to fit so that one's midsection or underwear is not exposed at any time, whether standing, bending, stretching, or sitting. No sagging or oversized shorts are allowed.

**DRESSES, SKIRTS, & SKORTS** - Should have hems that are no shorter than 3 inches above the kneecap.

**SHOES** - Must be worn and should be tennis/athletic shoes, loafers, flats, velcro or lace-up style shoes. Shoes that require laces must have laces and the laces must not be dangling. Sandals and "dressy" backless shoes are allowed in Grades 5 – 8. Heels should be 1½" or less on all shoes. Any flip-flop style, cleats or shoes with wheels are not allowed.

**SOCKS** must be worn, with the exception of wearing sandals during shorts season.

**COATS/JACKETS** - should be worn during cold weather. They should be taken off in the classroom.

**CAPS** – Caps, hats, bandannas, sweatbands, and outdoor headwear may not be worn in the building. Caps are only needed for outside recess times.

**ALSO** - No sunglasses in school. Ear piercing is the only visible piercing allowed. No unsafe or dangling earrings are allowed. Fad hairstyles designed to draw attention are disallowed.

## **CHAPEL DAY**

Chapel days are dress-up days, because in Exodus 19, God asked the Israelites to prepare to come into His presence at Mt. Sinai with outward acts that matched their inward consecration. Likewise, out of respect, all students (girls and boys) are expected to wear black, navy blue, or tan pants with a collared shirt with buttons (no graphics). A polo-shirt is acceptable. Girls may wear a black, navy blue, or tan skirt with a hem ending 3" above the knee or longer. As for shorts, they may be worn before October 31 and after April if they are constructed like pants and are black, navy blue, or tan with a hem 3" above the knee or longer. During colder weather a turtle neck shirt may be worn. A cardigan sweater or round neck or v-neck sweater may also be worn over the collared shirt or turtleneck. No sweatshirts or fleece jackets may be worn anytime during chapel day.

**CASUAL FRIDAYS** - Wearing “school-spirit shirts” or the school colors of blue and white are encouraged for Fridays. Students will also be allowed to wear athletic-style shorts or pants, neat sweatpants, or wind suits, in addition to all other approved attire. Sweats/pants with zippers on the legs must be zipped.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION ATTIRE**

**GRADES K-4:** Students should wear clothing appropriate for physical activity on physical education days. Athletic/tennis shoes and socks are required. Shorts will be worn under dresses/skirts. No jewelry should be worn during physical education class.

**GRADES 5-8:** Students will supply their own athletic/tennis shoes, white socks and a pair of athletic shorts. They should also wear a SFLS physical education T-shirt which they can purchase at registration time or from the school office. No jewelry should be worn during physical education class.

**ALL GRADES: Points are given for wearing the required items for P. E. classes.**

**SHORTS SEASON:** Shorts may NOT be worn between October 31 and April 1. Common sense should be used on days when the weather is too cold for wearing shorts.

### **Dress Code Violations**

Upon enrolling in this school, students and parents have chosen to accept SFLS standards and rules. It is a shared responsibility between the student, staff, and parents to understand and follow the dress code of the school. In cases of questionable dress, teachers will address the issue with the student first. (In matters of opinion the judgment of the school staff shall prevail.) The student will be asked to correct the violation and after 3 incidents a Office Discipline Referral will be given.