

## DRESS CODE

HCS believes that as disciples of Jesus Christ, Christian young people should dress in a way consistent with Biblical principles of decency. In I Timothy 2:9 and I Peter 3:3, we are asked to refrain from extremes which call attention to ourselves. The matter of dress is directly related to the kind of people we are and what we think ourselves to be. As Christians, we ought to be moderate in all things and refrain from offending others. Clothing should be neat, clean, and appropriate for a classroom atmosphere.

**Appearance** HCS is a place for learning. Consequently, appearances should encourage concentrated study and should in no way distract from the learning process. A student's appearance should also reflect the Christian value of encouraging the focus on the inner self, not the outer. A student should be comfortable but he is expected to meet basic standards. The standards are to be neat and clean, modest (**when clothing is not revealing**) and moderate, non-distracting and appropriate. If a student or parent has a question of whether a specific garment or style is appropriate, the time to check is before wearing it. Appearance standards apply when students are on campus or at any school activity, unless otherwise specified.

**Responsibility** A great responsibility rests with the parents to give proper guidance. Parents should not expect the school to do their job for them. Appropriate clothing and appearance decisions are to be handled at home to insure compliance with HCS standards. **It is expected that parents and students work together beforehand at home to avoid any dress code conflicts at school.** There are many more important educational issues to focus on, therefore personal appearance issues are not debated at HCS.

Each student is held responsible for the appropriateness of his appearance. Instances of deviation from established standards are handled justly on an individual basis. The administration is the final judge of neatness, cleanliness, and modesty, and retains the sole discretion to determine whether a student's appearance is appropriate. Parental support for the natural process of consequential decisions by students is greatly appreciated in the maturation process.

**Violation Procedures** Homeroom teachers are responsible for spotting and handling dress code violations so dress code issues are addressed in the morning. **\*\* A good rule for students and parents to follow is: "If there is doubt, do not wear it."**

**Offense:** Violation of the dress code is corrected as follows:

**(for PK-5th grades)** - by not allowing a student to attend class until he is in the appropriate attire. A parent is asked to bring clothing to replace what the student is wearing. The student is not allowed to return to class until this infraction is corrected.

**(for 6- 12th grades)** - by serving a detention at a designated time and place as prescribed by the faculty and administration. Violations are referred to the office and required to correct the violation before returning to class. (Students are given two school days to correct hair issues.)

Homeroom teachers may consult with administration for repetitive violations in order to address the underlying issue appropriately. If it is determined that the student is not going to comply or the family is not in agreement, then a suspension may be used to rectify the situation. A student whose appearance intentionally or continually violates our standards is asked to withdraw.

## Dress Code Guidelines

### Guidelines for Boys and Girls:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
Dress shorts that come to the knee.	Gym style shorts or <b>shorts above the knee</b>
	Sweatpants, athletic-style, or pajama pants
All jeans, slacks, and shorts must be clean and neat, and should not have holes, faded patches, or strings	Ragged edges or holes in jeans, slacks, and shorts
Shirts should fit appropriately.	
<i>HCS, Christian, or sports (for college or pro teams) t-shirts are allowed.</i>	<i>Non-Christian t-shirts or any t-shirts with negative messages.</i>
<i>Sweaters and turtlenecks.</i>	
Clothing should be without writing or symbols of any kind. Small apparel logos that identify the manufacturer of the article of clothing are permitted.	
	Any clothing or jewelry reflecting protest, rebellion, secular or occult symbols, skull, or cross bone patterns. Flamboyant or excessive jewelry.
Hair dyed or highlighted a color that <b>looks natural with the student's God-given hair color.</b>	<b>Hairstyles that interfere with the eyes or vision, extreme, or distracting hairstyles, or colors (pink, green, blue, red, yellow, purple, white) that draw attention to the student.</b>
	<b>Bandanas, hats, all head coverings, sunglasses (after entering the school building)</b>

### Guidelines for Shoes:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
Tennis shoes or sneakers	Flip-flops or crocks
Sandals with a strap on the heel (this is a safety/insurance issue).	

### Guidelines for Boys:

Acceptable	Not acceptable
<i>Pants without belts that are tasteful and modest.</i>	Jeans, slacks, or shorts that sag below the waist.
	Cut-offs, boxers, or gym style shorts
Shirts must have a collar.	
<i>Shirts do not need to be tucked into pants.</i>	
Hair must to the top of the eyebrow (front), the middle of the ears (sides), and the top of the collar (back).	Hair longer than prescribed.
	Earrings

**Guidelines for Girls:**

<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Not acceptable</b>
Capris	"Short" shorts, side-split, <b>cut-offs, boxers, or gym style shorts</b>
<i>Blouses and shirts are to be modest and provide appropriate coverage and insure modesty. Blouses and shirts do not have to have collars.</i>	<i>Shirts that are too tight or too revealing.</i>
Shirts can be worn outside slacks or skirts, but must extend at least 2"-3" below the belt or waistline.	Short shirts or mid-drifts are inappropriate at any time.
Dresses <b>with or without sleeves</b> or skirts at the highest point must reach <b>the knee and only the knee when standing.</b>	<b>Dresses above the knee.</b>
Dresses do not need a collar.	
Earrings	

**NEVER Acceptable Dress Code Guidelines**

<b>Guidelines for Boys and Girls That are NEVER acceptable even during spirit week or other "out of dress" occasions.</b>
Tight knit clothing (leggings or form fitting spandex, nylon, or yoga type shorts or pants) as an outer garment. (These are ONLY acceptable under dresses or skirts that <b>at the highest point reach the knee when standing.</b> )
"Short" shorts or mini skirts
Short shirts or mid-drifts
Sheer or see through clothing of any kind as the only garment.
Any clothing exposing the abdomen or the back when seated.
Any clothing reflecting protest, rebellion, peace signs, non-Christian, objectionable slogans/language on clothes, secular music groups, alcohol, or tobacco.
Tank tops, cami shirts, spaghetti strap shirts, or t-shirts with sleeves cut off.
Slides, flip flops & crocks for safety reasons
Hair color or face paint that cannot be washed out.
<b>Body rings, or other piercing jewelry.</b>
<b>Write, carve, or brand skin, tattoos (permanent or temporary)</b>

*Revised 6/2015*