

Grace Christian School Dress Code 2011-2012

Elementary School Dress Code – Grades Pre-K-6th

The emphasis of the school dress code is on neatness, modesty and cleanliness. All students are expected to conform within the following guidelines as concerns dress and personal appearance while at school and all school-sponsored events. If students arrive dressed inappropriately where modesty is an issue, the student will be asked to immediately correct his/her dress to meet the school's modesty standards. If unable to comply, he/she will be asked to call a parent to bring clothing to the school or wear alternative clothing provided by the school. The judgment of the administration will serve as the final authority in interpreting and enforcing this code.

General Guidelines

1. Clothing should be clean and in good repair. Ragged, torn, frayed and poorly fitted clothing is considered inappropriate for wear at GCS. All clothing should be properly fitted and sized.
2. Tank tops and spaghetti strap tops are not permissible. Sleeveless shirts are permissible.
3. Hair should be neatly groomed and styled. Boys' and girls' hair should not obscure vision. Boys' hair should be no longer than the bottom of the ear and extend only to the top of the collar in the back.
4. No hats are to be worn in any school building.
5. Students are asked when wearing any item with symbols, writing or pictures, to be especially careful to avoid offensive content. Temporary tattoos are not permitted. Parents are encouraged to use Philippians 4:8 as a good criteria for evaluation of such content.
6. Students may wear shirts untucked if the shirt is not oversized. Shirts should be of modest length such that normal movements do not reveal midriff. Openings of all shirts and tops must be at or just below the collarbone.
7. Belts are encouraged, but not required, as long as slacks are properly fitted and sized.
8. Beach thongs, flip-flops and sports sandals are not permitted. Sandals/clogs with backs or heel straps are permitted. However, sandals/clogs are not permitted on the playground for safety reasons. Students must bring a pair of athletic-style shoes for outside play. Shoes must be tied. Students are asked not to wear heels over 2 inches.
9. On days of field trips, boys are to wear collared shirts and slacks. Girls are to wear dresses, skirts (proximity of the knee or longer), or appropriate dress slacks, blouses, etc. The teacher may make exceptions when the nature of the field trip is not conducive to nice clothes.

10. Longer-style shorts and capris may be worn from the beginning of the year through October 31st and again from April 1st through the end of the year.

11. Students may be kept inside during recess if, at the teacher's discretion, they are not dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. This includes jackets, hat, gloves, etc.

If your child comes out of dress code (a violation of any of the above), you will be called and asked to bring your child a change of clothes. Thank you for helping us out in this manner.

Middle School Dress Code – Grades 7th – 8th

The dress code emphasis for all MS students is on modesty, neatness, and cleanliness. Clothing with tears, holes, rips, frayed edges, and inappropriate slogans are not allowed. Clothing should be properly fitted, sized, and hemmed.

BOYS

- Long shorts to the top of the knees are allowed from the beginning of the year through October 31st and again from April 1st to the end of the year; shorts must be hemmed. No sports shorts or mesh shorts.
- Boys may wear dressier style flip-flops and sandals from the beginning of the year through October 31st and again from April 1st to the end of the year. (No rubber beach flip-flops except on Casual Days.)
- Boys may wear jeans, slacks, or cargo pants.
- Polo shirts, Henley style shirts, and collared shirts that are straight-edged and hemmed may be worn untucked. All other shirts should be tucked in with a belt.
- Sport coats, lightweight jackets, and fleece pullovers and jackets may be worn in class. Sweatshirts and sweatshirt jackets may only be worn on casual day.
- T-shirts are not allowed except on designated casual days.
- Belts must be worn if shirt is tucked in or if pants are not properly fitting.
- Tennis shoes are permissible.
- No hats may be worn in the buildings.
- Hair should be neatly groomed and styled. Hair length should not obscure vision, nor extend over the bottom of the ear, or touch the collar. Boys are asked to refrain from extreme styles and colors, which may draw undue attention to self.

GIRLS

- Long shorts to the top of the knees or capris pants may be worn from the beginning of the year through October 31st and again from April 1st to the end of the year; shorts and capris pants must be hemmed. Sports or mesh shorts are not allowed.
- Girls may wear jeans or other appropriately sized pants. Pants, stretch pants, or jeans that are deemed tight fitting (by the MS staff) must be worn with a loose-fitting, longer style top or sweater that is mid-thigh length, or with a skirt or dress.
- Leggings may be worn with a dress or skirt.
- Girls may wear dresses. The top must be up to the collarbone, no open backs, or spaghetti straps; dresses that do not fit these guidelines must be worn with a nice top

(with sleeves) that goes to the collarbone; dresses and skirts must be no shorter than two inches above the kneecap.

- Girls are to wear shirts or blouses with collars, which must be buttoned to within two buttons. Tops without buttons must have a collar and should come within close proximity to the collarbone.
- Lightweight jackets, sweaters, sweater hoodies, and fleece pullovers and jackets may be worn in class. Sweatshirts and sweatshirt jackets are only permitted on casual days.
- Nice sandals or dressier flip-flop style sandals may be worn from the beginning of the year through October 31st and again from April 1st to the end of the year. (No rubber beach flip-flops, except on casual days.
- Tennis shoes are permissible.
- Heels on shoes may be no more than two inches high.
- Girls are asked to refrain from extreme hairstyles and colors, which may draw undue attention to self. No hats may be worn in the buildings.

**** Tattoos and body piercings are not permitted for boys or girls, although conservative ear piercing is permitted for girls.****

High School Dress Code – Grades 9th –12th

In the spirit of having a uniform dress code, all clothing must be in good repair, modest, and of appropriate fit. In addition, extreme styles in hair, clothing, or jewelry which would draw undue attention to oneself should not be worn. Tattoos and body piercing are not permitted, although conservative ear piercing is permitted for girls. The dress code for students in grades nine through twelve is as follows:

Guidelines for Male Students

- **Slacks:** Students are to wear plain-front or pleated dress or semi-dress slacks which are trim fitting and appropriate in length (patch pockets are permitted). All slacks with belt loops are to be worn with belts. Please note that “skinny” jeans, denim slacks of any color, and over-sized styles are not permitted.
 - From the beginning of the school year through October 15 and from April 15 through the end of the school year, students may wear dress shorts with belts. Shorts must meet all other requirements for slacks. Regular dress code for shirts applies during this time period.
- **Shirts:** Students may wear button-front dress shirts, polo-style collared shirts, or turtlenecks/mock turtlenecks. Small designer emblems or GCS script on shirts are acceptable. Shirts must be tucked into slacks unless they have a straight hem.
- **Sweaters:** Students may wear pull-over sweaters, sweater vests and cardigans over collared shirts. Shirts are not required under turtleneck sweaters.
- **Jackets:** Students may wear sports jackets, light-weight jackets and pullovers (with small logo). Sweatshirts may only be worn on casual days.

- **Footwear:** Students may wear dress or semi-dress footwear. Birkenstock sandals are also permitted to be worn with socks. Students may wear black or brown leather athletic shoes. No canvas shoes are permitted and all shoes with laces must be tied.
 - From the beginning of the school year through October 15 and from April 15 through the end of the school year, students may wear tennis shoes with socks or Birkenstock sandals with socks. Socks must be at least to the height of the anklebone.
- **Personal Grooming:** Hair should be neatly groomed and styled. Hair lengths should not obscure vision, nor extend over the middle of the ear or exceed collar length. Students are asked to refrain from extreme styles which may draw undue attention to self.
 - Young men are to be neatly shaven on a daily basis. They are also asked to refrain from wearing jewelry other than finger rings, necklaces, and/or bracelets.

Guidelines for Female Students

- **Slacks:** Students may wear plain-front or pleated dress slacks (patch pockets are permitted). Please note that jean cuts, denim slacks of any color, as well as stretch or tightly-fitted styles are not permitted. Belts are required on all slacks with belt loops.
 - From the beginning of the school year through October 15 and from April 15 through the end of the school year, girls may wear mid-calf dress capris. Capris must otherwise meet all other requirements for slacks.
- **Dresses, Skirts and Jumpers:** Students may wear dresses, skirts and jumpers no shorter than two inches above the top of the kneecap. Dresses must cover the shoulders and be of a modest neckline cut (at or just below the collarbone). Shirts/tops worn with jumpers and skirts must conform to the guidelines in the following section.
- **Blouses/Shirts:** Students are to wear button front dress shirts/blouses with collars, polo-style collared shirts, or turtlenecks/mock turtlenecks. Button front shirts/blouses are to be buttoned at or just below the collarbone unless worn over another top (see next paragraph). If worn over another top, button front shirts/blouses are still to be buttoned within the top two buttons.
 - Tops (t-shirts, tank-tops, etc.) worn under outer-shirts/blouses must be at or just below the collarbone.
 - Clothing must be sized such that normal movements do not reveal the midriff.
- **Sweaters:** Sweaters of approximately waist to hip-length and coat-style sweaters may be worn over the tops listed in the previous section.
- **Jackets:** Students may wear sports jackets, light-weight jackets and pullovers (with small logo). Sweatshirts may only be worn on casual days.
- **Footwear:** Students may wear dress or semi-dress footwear. They are asked not to wear athletic shoes, hiking boots, or beach-style flip-flops. For safety reasons, students are asked not to wear heels over two inches.
- **Personal Grooming:** Students are asked to be neatly groomed and to refrain from extreme styles which may draw undue attention to self.

Guidelines for Casual Days (for both male and female students)

On designated Casual Days, students may wear:

- Jeans
- T-shirts or sweatshirts
- Tennis shoes

Please note the following guidelines:

- All attire must be neat and in good repair.
- All attire must be modest.
- All attire must be of appropriate fit (no baggy pants, oversized shirts, skinny pants, tight-fitting tops, etc.)
- Students are asked when wearing T-shirts with symbols, writing or pictures, to be especially careful to avoid offensive content. Parents are encouraged to use Philippians 4:8 as a good criteria for evaluation of such content.
- Students may not wear hats, sweat pants, sports shorts, or warm-up sports pants on Casual Days.

Dress Code Violations

It is expected that high school students will exemplify godly standards in personal choices regarding dress. Over the years it has been our experience that the vast majority of our students have cheerfully complied with the spirit of the dress code. In those exceptions when this is not the case, the administration and teachers will inform these students when certain attire may not be in accordance with our standards. In our desire to be consistent and fair, to the best of our ability, the following enforcement guidelines will be followed.

- Violations of the dress code will result in a demerit and the student may be asked to change clothes so as to be in compliance with the dress code. If, in the judgment of the administration, the student demonstrates a continued attitude of non-compliance, the parents will be contacted and expected to resolve the problem. (See pages 33-35 for a description of the Merit/Demerit System.)

The judgment of the administration will serve as the final authority in interpreting and enforcing this code. The administration will make every effort to communicate with parents in a timely manner if it is determined that dress code violations are becoming an issue for a student.