

PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS (formerly DRESS POLICY)

The ability to dress appropriately for each occasion of life is a skill that will benefit our students over their lifetime. Standards for appearance are a means of building character and skills that will provide an advantage for our students. The appearance of students at the Academy (CA) rests on the philosophy that dress is an expression of personality and attitude. By exhibiting positive attitudes, and appropriate dress, students show respect for themselves and their work place. The Academy will work to develop a high **Quality of Appearance** that enables a student to make a positive impact in our daily lives. The dress code at the Academy is designed to demonstrate that students have a sense of personal dignity, modesty, and decorum. Within this context **extremes** are to be avoided and all dress is **modest** in appearance. It is important to note that in establishing a specific dress code, students are taught **discipline** in abiding by a standard of dress and at the same time **appropriateness** of dress for a variety (dress-up, casual, play) of occasions. Students are expected to follow the dress code correctly and proudly. We ask parents to assist in being sure your child is in proper dress prior to arriving to school. Students should be taught to assume responsibility for wearing proper attire when they enter school in the morning and to remain in dress code throughout the day. If the entire CA family will emphasize the importance of **responsibility** by insisting that personal appearance is within the guidelines established, we will instill in students the desire to be **distinctive** in their dress and testimony. Dress code should not become an issue but a **positive expression** of personality and attitude. School officials recognize the challenge for parents of interpreting the personal dress standards in conjunction with current trends within the fashion industry. The safest course of action would be to ask the following questions:

- Is it neat and does it fit appropriately for school?
- Is it modest? See I Peter 3:3-4
- Does it promote appropriate attitude and behavior for God? See Romans 13:14
- Is it non-offensive? See I John 2:15-17

MALE DRESS CODE

Pants and Shorts

Pants and shorts must be **solid colored in the following family of hues**: khaki or navy blue. The material cannot be made from denim, sweat suit, velour or leather. Pants and shorts cannot be cargo and should be in good condition with no holes, and hemmed with no frayed edges. They should fit properly. A proper fit includes pants or shorts that are not oversized or tight. Neither pants nor shorts may be worn in the “low-rider” style. Belts must be worn at all times and black or brown in color (**K-2 students do not have to wear belts**). The length of the shorts should not be more than 3 inches from the middle of the knee.

Shirts (Grades K – 12)

The styles of shirts that are acceptable are polo-style pullover shirts, button-down dress shirts, and turtleneck shirts with fold down collars. These shirts can be solid white or

navy blue in color and must have collars. Any brand name labels must be no larger than a standard business card. Business, company, or advertisement shirts are not allowed. CA Logo uniform shirts are available through the office periodically throughout the year. Only solid tee shirts may be worn underneath the shirt. All shirts must have either long or short sleeves. All shirts must be tucked in and not rolled under (**K-2 students do not have to tuck in shirts**). Extra shirts cannot be worn as a jacket nor can they be tied around the waist. No more than two buttons may be left unbuttoned at the neck. Sweatshirts, pullover sweaters, vests, or cardigans may be worn as long as they are solid white or navy blue in color.

T-Shirts

Athletic and non-athletic organization t-shirts may be worn after the sponsor or coach has received approval from administration. Approved non-athletic t-shirts will be allowed when an organization has a significant event to publicize and celebrate. Approved athletic t-shirts will be allowed on game days only. Approved warm-ups must be accompanied by an approved t-shirt.

Hair

Hair must be clean, neat and not below the eyebrows. Haircuts that are unusually shaved or spiked are not allowed. Color must consist of natural hair colors. Extreme hair fashion, or any other hairstyle deemed inappropriate by the administration, will not be allowed. The administration reserves the right to disallow any “new” or “old” hairstyle that they feel is in conflict with the mission and philosophy of the school or distracts from the learning environment.

FEMALE DRESS CODE

Pants and Shorts

Pants, Capri pants, and shorts must be **solid colored in the following family of hues:** khaki or navy blue. The material cannot be made from denim, sweat suit, velour or leather. Pants and shorts should be in good condition with no holes and hemmed with no frayed edges. They should fit properly. A proper fit includes pants or shorts that are not oversized or tight. Neither pants nor shorts may be worn in the “low-rider” style. Belts must be worn at all times with shorts and pants that have belt loops and black or brown in color (**K-2 students do not have to wear belts**). The length of the shorts should not be more than 3 inches from the middle of the knee.

Skirts, Jumpers, and Skorts

Skirts, jumpers, and skorts can be khaki or navy blue in color. The material cannot be made from denim material. Leather skirts, jumpers and skorts are prohibited. Skirts, jumpers and skorts should fit properly. The length of the skirt, jumper, or skort should not be more than 3 inches from the middle of the knee. Skirt slits must be no higher than 3 inches above mid-knee. K-2 must wear modesty shorts under jumpers and skirts.

Elementary Blouses (Grades K – 12)

The styles of shirts that are acceptable are polo-style pullover shirts, button-down dress shirts, and turtleneck shirts with fold down collars. These shirts can be solid white or navy blue in color and must have collars. Any brand name labels must be no larger than a standard business card. Business, company, or advertisement shirts are not allowed. CA Logo uniform shirts are available through the office periodically throughout the year. Only solid tee shirts may be worn underneath the shirt. All shirts must have either long or short sleeves. All shirts must be tucked in and not rolled under (**K-2 students do not have to tuck in shirts**). Extra shirts cannot be worn as a jacket nor can they be tied around the waist. No more than two buttons may be left unbuttoned at the neck. Sweatshirts, pullover sweaters, vests, or cardigans may be worn as long as they are solid white or navy blue in color.

T-Shirts

Athletic and non-athletic organization t-shirts may be worn after the sponsor or coach has received approval from administration. Approved non-athletic t-shirts will be allowed when an organization has a significant event to publicize and celebrate. Approved athletic t-shirts will be allowed on game days only. Approved warm-ups must be accompanied by an approved t-shirt.

Hair

Hair must be clean, neat and not below the eyebrows. Haircuts that are unusually shaved or spiked are not allowed. Color must consist of natural colors. Extreme hair fashion, or any other hairstyle deemed inappropriate by the administration, will not be allowed. The administration reserves the right to disallow any “new” or “old” hairstyle that they feel is in conflict with the mission and philosophy of the school or distract from the learning environment.

ALL STUDENTS

CA sweatshirts are available for sale through the office. For your convenience and savings, all acceptable items may be purchased at a location of your choice.

Shoes

Shoes must be predominantly white, navy, brown, black, or gray. Socks must be worn at all times except when wearing sandals. Sandals must have a back strap. Flip-flops are not to be worn (including athletic sandals). No skate shoes will be permitted.

Jewelry

Visible body piercing, with the exception of earrings for girls, is not allowed. Tongue piercing or splitting is not allowed. Clear jewelry is not an acceptable alternative. Pocket chains are not permissible. No dog chains, dog collars, or spiked jewelry will be

permitted. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings. Any jewelry that is clearly identified with a segment of culture that is unwholesome or ungodly will not be allowed.

Jackets and Coats

No trench coats or oversized coats are permitted. In grades K-12 coats and jackets may not be worn in class. Sweaters and sweatshirts that meet dress code standards are allowed in the classroom.

Miscellaneous

- Hats, bandannas, etc. may not be worn in the school building during school hours.
- Visible tattoos **or writing/markings on clothing or skin** are unacceptable.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Students who are dressed in violation of the CA dress code will be given one of the following options:

1. The student may call home to have the parent bring a change of clothes.
2. Students will be given articles of clothing to wear (if available).
3. If no one can be contacted, the student will be sent to the office and given assignments to complete.

Repeated violations of the dress code will result in disciplinary action. **After two dress code warnings, students will be issued a one hour detention for each incident for the remainder of the year.**

STUDENTS REPRESENTING CA

Students participating in fine arts presentations, field trips, or on athletic teams may be required to follow a specific dress code as deemed appropriate for the occasion. The required dress guidelines will be announced in advance by the sponsors or coaches.

DRESS DOWN DAYS

The administration will determine "Dress Down Days". On "Dress Down Days" students must follow the general guidelines issued by the administration.

MARKING OF CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

Each student must have his/her name on all clothing, shoes, gym clothing and equipment. All markings should be of a permanent nature, i.e., name tags or written in permanent marker. The school will not take the part of arbitrator in distributing unmarked clothing and equipment. **Any items left in the designated lost and found location will be donated to a local charity at the end of the month.**