

HILLCREST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

DRESS CODE (2024-2025)

“...whatever you do, do all for the glory of God.” (1 Corinthians 10:31)

The purpose of Hillcrest Christian Academy is to disciple young people to do the work of the Lord. For this reason, Bible class is part of their daily schedule. The goal of the Academy is not to reform, but to train youth in the highest principles of Christian leadership, self-discipline, individual responsibility, personal integrity, and good citizenship. Hillcrest Christian Academy stands without apology for the highest standards of morality and behavior. Our faculty and administration are here to assist parents to provide a quality education. We are an extension of the Christian home and local church, and not a substitute. We will do our best to communicate with you concerning your child and ask for full cooperation from you, as well as from students. If we are to be successful in our endeavors, we must work together.

Appropriate student dress and good grooming practices affect the overall environment and operation of a school. Thus, students must wear appropriate attire at all times. Acceptable clothing/appearance at HCA is based on the Biblical principles of modesty, neatness, and appropriateness and is defined as neat, clean, well-kept, properly-fitting, modest, humble, and an appropriate creative expression. Clothing and appearance should not be a disruption or distraction to the learning environment, sloppy, dirty/stained, worn out, excessively tight or baggy, and should not contain offensive or inappropriate symbolism. Modesty is mentioned often as an important character quality (1 Timothy 2:9-10 and 1Thessalonians 4:5,6). Neatness and appropriateness are important as we seek to be ambassadors for Jesus Christ. We must be examples for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, in purity. (1 Timothy 4:12)

It is important for parents and students to understand the following policies. Please take time to read and discuss them together. Should you have any questions, please consult the administration.

- Uniform clothing must be worn in grades 1 through 12 unless other attire (such as Dress Down Day) is authorized by the administration.
- **Preschool and kindergarten students** are not required to wear uniforms but are expected to follow styles in keeping with the atmosphere of a Christian school.
- The dress code applies to **ALL HCA supervised events**.
- Note that there are separate guidelines for Dress Down Days.

Uniform items may be purchased at local stores such as JC Penney, Target, Old Navy, etc., or from Lands' End Uniforms online. **Items specific to our school are available by clicking on the Lands' End link on the hillcrestca.org home page.** Wherever clothing is purchased, it must follow the dress code.

ALL STUDENTS – Grades 1 through 12

****Also See Guidelines Specific to GIRLS and BOYS****

ITEM	TYPE	COLOR	LENGTH	GUIDELINES
Shirts	solid color polo or button-down oxford	red, black white, light pink, navy blue, gray		Polo or oxford shirts must cover the body from shoulder to waist during all activities and must have sleeves (short or long); neckline must be no lower than one closed hand width from the base of the neck. Any manufacturer's logo is to be no larger than one inch square.
Pants/Capris	with or without pleat	khaki navy blue black		Must be hemmed and worn at waist level; cargo pants may have no more than 2 cargo pockets on each front/back.

ITEM	TYPE	COLOR	LENGTH	GUIDELINES
Tights Leggings Yoga Pants Jeggings				May not be worn as pants. Can only be worn under skirts or dresses that meet the dress code standard for length.
Shorts	with or without pleat	khaki navy blue black	no shorter than 3" above the knee	No athletic, biker, cheer, spandex, volleyball, or legging shorts permitted. Cargo shorts may have no more than 2 cargo pockets on each front/back.
Shoes	tennis shoes, sandals, dress shoes, casual shoes			Laces must be tied; sandals must have heel strap; no taps, wheels, clogs, flip-flops, or water socks/shoes; no Croc brand or Croc-type shoes.
Socks		red, black navy blue white		Only solid colors as specified; both socks must match.
Sweaters Sweatshirts Hoodies	solid-color button-down or pullover	red, black white, pink navy blue	short- or long-sleeve	Only solid colors as specified. No logos except HCA. Dress code appropriate shirts must be worn under hoodies. Hoods are not to be pulled up over the head. Any manufacturer's logo is to be no larger than 1" square. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student's wearing ANY LOGO that is larger than 1' square will be required to change the sweatshirt or wear the sweatshirt inside out for the remainder of the school day.
Outdoor Coats and Jackets				May not be worn in class. Dress code appropriate sweaters or hoodies may be worn in class without hood pulled up.
Hair Haircuts Hair Color	appropriate for Christian school setting			Hair must be neat, clean, and out of the eyes; extreme, disruptive, or distracting styles (i.e. mohawk), and colors that radically alter the natural color are prohibited. Refer also to guidelines specific to BOYS.
Body Piercings Tattoos				Prohibited; should a student already have a tattoo, it must be covered during the school day and at all school functions.
Hats Bandanas Hoods				Prohibited.
Symbols on Clothing and Accessories	appropriate for Christian school setting			Must be devoid of offensive, vulgar, suggestive, or sexual pictures, symbols, innuendos, words, and messages, references to music artists, offensive characteristics, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons, the occult, gangs, politics or political figures, anime, and religions other than Christianity.
Dress Down				Refer to guidelines specific to Dress Down Days.

****GIRLS – Grades 1 through 12****
In addition to Guidelines for ALL STUDENTS

ITEM	TYPE	COLOR	LENGTH	GUIDELINES
Jumpers Skirts Skorts		khaki navy blue black School approved --plaid	No shorter than 3" above the knee	Dress code-appropriate shirt must be worn under jumpers.
Panty Hose		nude, black navy blue		
Jewelry/Makeup	modest; appropriate for Christian school setting			No more than 2 piercings per ear lobe; no gauges, paper clips, bobby pins, or other non-jewelry in ears; no facial/body piercings; makeup is to be natural-looking.
Scarves				Prohibited.
Shoes				Heels no higher than 1".

BOYS – Grades 1 through 12
In addition to Guidelines for ALL STUDENTS

ITEM	COLOR	LENGTH	GUIDELINES
Ties (optional)	red, black navy blue white		Only solid colors as specified.
Earrings/Makeup/Piercings			Prohibited.
Hair		kept off the eyes; length no longer than the top of the shirt collar	Refer to guidelines for ALL STUDENTS. In addition, ponytails and buns are not an acceptable hair style for males. If standards are not followed, parents will be notified that the child's hair must be cut by the following Monday, or the child must serve in-house detention until hair is within standards.
Facial Hair		neatly trimmed	

DRESS CODE FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS PRACTICE

**All standards for appropriate school dress must be followed
during physical education and sports practices.**

- Students in kindergarten through grade 12 participate in gym classes.
- Students in grades 5 and above are able to change clothes for gym class (ATHLETIC DRESS CODE MUST BE FOLLOWED).
- T-shirts, shorts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, and athletic pants that meet dress code criteria may be worn. Spandex shorts are prohibited.
- All students must wear tennis shoes during gym class.
- Girls must wear shorts underneath dresses/skirts for gym class.
- Students not appropriately dressed for gym class will not be allowed to participate and will receive a minus grade for the day.

DRESS CODE FOR DRESS DOWN DAYS

Students may participate in a Friday Dress Down Day only if they have been in compliance with the dress code on the preceding Monday through Thursday.

ITEM	GUIDELINES	NOT PERMITTED
Pants/Shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any color or pattern casual pants, jeans, or shorts • Shorts must extend below the fingertips when standing erect with arms at sides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, and any pants that outline or hug the body in an inappropriate way • Athletic or sweat pants • Pants/shorts with holes • Distressed or ripped jeans • Anything sheer or see-through • Biker shorts, cheer shorts, spandex shorts, volleyball shorts • Sleepwear or lounge attire (joggers, pajama bottoms) • Offensive, vulgar, suggestive, sexual pictures, symbols, words, messages, or innuendos, references to music artists, offensive characteristics, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons, the occult, gangs, politics or political figures, anime, religions other than Christianity
Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must cover the body from the shoulder to the waist during all activities • Neckline must be no lower than one hand width from the base of the neck • All shirts must have sleeves • Any color or pattern • Appropriate logos or pictures/brands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergarments exposed • Excessively tight or baggy • Tank tops, muscle shirts, sleeveless, cap sleeves, off-the-shoulder shirts • Sheer or see-through • Holes, rips, or cut-outs • Distressed or destroyed • Sleepwear or loungewear • Crop tops • Offensive, vulgar, suggestive, sexual pictures, symbols, words, messages, or innuendos, references to music artists, offensive characteristics, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons, the occult, gangs, politics or political figures, anime, religions other than Christianity
Sweatshirts (Hoodies, Zip-Ups, Sweaters, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any color or pattern • Worn over approved shirt • Appropriate brands/pictures/logos • Colleges/appropriate mascots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excessively tight or baggy • Sheer or see-through • Holes, rips, or cut-outs • Distressed or destroyed • Offensive, vulgar, suggestive, sexual pictures, symbols, words, messages, or innuendos, references to music artists, offensive characteristics, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, weapons, the occult, gangs, politics or political figures, anime, religions other than Christianity

ITEM	GUIDELINES	NOT PERMITTED
<p align="center">Skirts/Dresses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Any color or pattern ● Must extend below fingertips when standing erect with arms at sides ● Leggings/jeggings may be worn underneath 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Should not expose undergarments, chest, back, or midriff during ANY activity (standing, sitting, walking, running, stretching, and bending) ● Cut-outs ● Sleeveless, unless layered with an approved shirt or sweater ● Slits in skirts/dresses ● Tight skirts/dresses that hug the body closely
<p align="center">Shoes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Must have a back ● Heels no higher than 3" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tap shoes ● Flip-flops ● Water shoes/socks ● Crocs brand or Croc-like shoes ● Wheeled shoes ● Athletic cleats ● Heels higher than 1"
<p align="center">Hair</p>	<p align="center">Same as regular Dress Code guidelines</p>	
<p align="center">Accessories</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scarves ● Neckties (only to be worn with a collared or button-down shirt) ● Hats and hoods (to be worn outside only) ● Makeup – natural in color ● Jewelry ● Hair accessories ● Earrings (no more than two per ear) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Earrings: no gauges, paper clips or non-jewelry permitted to be in ears ● Excessive makeup or face paint ● Excessive jewelry that causes a safety hazard, distraction, or disruption ● Hair accessories which cause a safety hazard, distraction, or disruption ● Facial jewelry (nose rings, tongue rings, etc.) ● Body piercing style jewelry (naval jewelry, etc.)

VIOLATIONS OF DRESS CODE

Even though we readily acknowledge that much of the dress code is an institutional preference, it is not optional. Students are expected to abide by the code and parents/guardians are expected to monitor compliance before their children leave the house. It is inappropriate that other students and faculty be distracted from the educational process because someone failed to fulfill his or her commitment to follow the dress code. Dress code infractions will be addressed immediately. Teachers, administrators, and office staff will monitor student dress daily. Compliance will be expected, and violations will receive the following consequences:

1. The student's parent is contacted, and he/she must change out of the inappropriate clothing, either by having the parent bring in a change of clothing or by changing into appropriate clothing that may be available in the school office.
2. A Dress Code Violation Form shall be completed, and the student will receive disciplinary action for each violation as follows:
 - First offense: Verbal warning, change of clothes, parents are contacted.
 - Second offense: Lunch detention, parents are contacted.
 - Third offense: After school detention, parents are contacted.
 - Fourth offense: Out of school suspension (student may complete the work assigned but will NOT receive any credit), as well as a conference with school administrators.

The dress code applies to all HCA supervised events. The administration reserves the right to discipline any student who, in their opinion, is not dressed appropriately for Hillcrest Christian Academy. Where personal differences arise over any portion of the dress code policy, the final decision will be based on the discretion of the principal.