

Dress Code Policy

Christian Life School has chosen to adopt a standardized dress code. The dress of the students reflects the beliefs, expectations, and mission of Christian Life School to visitors, prospective students, and the community. We believe that standardized dress will help foster a positive learning atmosphere by

1. Fostering a strong school spirit and unity of the students as a body. The students become more accountable for their behavior because they visibly represent Christian Life School to the community around them. It allows the school to present a dignified image to visitors or when away from the school for field trips, etc.
2. Setting simple, clear standards so that faculty, parents, and students all have a solid understanding of what is and is not acceptable.
3. Helping to remove the pressure to conform to this world's standards by promoting a high standard of clean, neat, and modest appearance. (1 Timothy 2:9, 10; Romans 12:21)
4. Freeing staff and administration from the distraction of policing a dress code, and allowing them to focus on the hearts and minds of the students.
5. Eliminating a competitive spirit regarding clothing among students and its attendant financial pressures on families.
6. Reducing daily stress over what to wear and parent-student conflicts over appropriate attire.

Finally, we believe that over the long-term, our families will find that standardized dress can reduce clothing expense. We also plan to facilitate our families in trading clothes, and plan to offer at least one swap event each year. A limited number of subsidies are available to help those families for whom the cost of clothing is too great a burden. Applications for assistance are available from the financial office and will be kept confidential.

Please take note that Threads and Inks carries a limited stock. It is advised that you visit the store at your earliest convenience in order for your student to try on the clothing and place your order. If your selected item is not in stock; it generally takes two weeks to receive your order.

General Requirements

Overall appearance must be clean and neat with no holes or frayed hems. No items should be excessively large or tight, and must not be worn in such a way that underwear is visible. At the discretion of the administration certain items may be required if problems arise (e.g. a belt if pants are consistently too loose) or as required dress for certain group activities (e.g. band participation.)

Hair must be cleaned and groomed, of natural hair color and not a flamboyant style as determined by the administration. Hair should not obstruct the eyes. Boys must be clean shaven, no sideburns below the ear, with hair no more than collar length in the back.

Tattoos are not permitted.

Approved Dress

Polos, Blouses, Oxford and Peter Pan Style Shirts

All items are to be purchased from the options pre-selected at Threads and Inks. These items will have a "flock" on the upper left side for easy identification.

Students must wear a standardized dress shirt under sweatshirts and fleece items. Plain white undershirts, mock- or turtlenecks are acceptable under the required dress. These should have no decorative trim, print, prominent logos, etc. No long sleeve shirts under short sleeve shirts. Undershirts may be purchased anywhere.

Shirts, except for sweatshirts, are to be worn tucked in.

Pants, Skirts, Skorts, Jumpers, and Shorts

All pants, skirts, skorts, jumpers and shorts must be purchased from Threads and Inks.

Pant hems may not touch the ground. Extra length may not be rolled up, but must be hemmed.

Skirts and shorts length not be more than 4" from the floor when kneeling. It is strongly recommended that girls in primary grades wear matching bike shorts for modesty. These may be purchased elsewhere. Bike shorts may only be worn under skirts.

Sweatshirts, Fleece Vests and Jackets

These items must be purchased from Threads and Inks. These may be worn inside the classroom.

Phy Ed Uniforms

Must be purchased from Threads and Inks. They are required for grades 5-12, optional for younger students. Shorts may not be shortened permanently or "rolled" to shorten them.

Senior Privilege Items

Near the end of their junior year, the prospective senior class will be presented with a set of options from which to choose a top of their choice. The ladies' choice will apply to all senior ladies, and the men's choice to all senior men.

Required Dress Code Items

Elementary - All elementary students are required to have 1 pair of black pants and one white shirt (this can be a polo or oxford, long or short sleeve). These items will be used for the musical programs.

Accessories

All accessories should coordinate in color with the standardized dress worn. Very bright colors and flashiness in general should be avoided. They should not be attention-getting, but rather complimentary and a nice finish to the outfit as a whole.

Jewelry, hair bows, barrettes, etc. should be conservative, not be of an inappropriate symbolic nature (New Age, Pagan, revolutionary, etc). No jewelry requiring piercing except for girls' ears.

Socks are to be worn with shoes, except for sandals, and should either be white or a color that blends

with slacks and shoes. Girls may wear plain or cabled tights or nylons of a neutral color without other trim, prints, patterns, etc.

Tennis shoes, dress shoes and dress casual sandals are acceptable. All types of shoes should be neutral in color and should not detract from the overall standardized look, without extreme colors, inappropriate graphics, bright laces, or flashing lights. Elementary students must wear sandals with an ankle strap for safety reasons. Sandals should be dress casual, i.e. no straps between toes, athletic sandals, athletic slides or flip-flops. No heels higher than 2" on any type of shoe. **No black soled shoes--dress or tennis--are permitted on the gym floor.**

Belts are recommended but not required when belt loops are present. Again, they should be neutral in color, without sayings or bright decorations, and plain buckles.

No hats and sunglasses or other outwear in the classrooms.

Standardized Dress Items

All Students

All items will have a "flock" for easy compliance checks unless otherwise noted.

Long and short sleeve polos in white, royal blue, light blue, and pink choice of interlock or pique knits (optional embroidery)

Long and short sleeve oxfords in white and light blue (optional embroidery)

Black skirt or jumper for girls

Peter Pan Style Jumper Shirt (to be worn with jumper only)

Black or khaki skorts for girls

Pleated walking shorts in khaki and black

Pleated or flat front pants in khaki and black

Royal Sweatshirt with logo embroidery (no flock)

Fleece vest, full zip jacket or quarter zip pullover (no flock)

V-neck cardigan or pullover sweater in black with logo embroidery

Additional Choices for Secondary Grades

Black polo

Longer skirt for girls in khaki

Phy Ed uniforms are required for grades 5 and up, optional for younger grades (Knit shorts and t-shirts).

Undershirt Color: Only white undershirts are allowed, as stated in the policy, under polo and oxford shirts. Students should not wear black or other colors.

Shirts under Sweatshirts / Fleece / Sweaters: As a clarification, these items must be worn with a standardized dress code shirt (polo or oxford) underneath them.