



Northwest Christian High School

Dress Code Policy

2023-24

NCHS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Dress Code Philosophy

While the Northwest Christian High School recognizes that opinions vary considerably regarding appropriate dress, NCHS has established simple guidelines, which students are required to follow while on campus. It is our desire that students live and conduct themselves in a manner pleasing to God. Cleanliness, neatness, appropriateness, and modesty are the general guiding factors with regard to dress. NCHS staff will enforce dress guidelines and educate all students regarding these guidelines. Questions concerning the standard of dress should be directed to the school administration, which will make the final determination as to appropriateness.

The Heart of the Dress Guidelines

To honor God with our appearance. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:17)

To pursue purity and reject worldliness. I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2)

To look to leadership for guidance. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. (Hebrews 13:17)

To esteem others more highly than ourselves. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. (Philippians 2:3-4)

Dress Code Expectations for All Students

- Students must dress modestly and appropriately at all times
- Hairstyles and fashion should avoid extremes
- Any exceptions must be approved by the principal

Face Coverings

- Face coverings are optional
- Face coverings shall not have any illustrations/text prohibited under the dress code
- Face coverings shall be worn in an appropriate manner at all times

Footwear

- Must be worn at all times
- For Physical Education, sports shoes and socks are the only appropriate footwear

Pants/Shorts

- Shorts must have a 5 inch inseam or longer
- Skirts/dresses must be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee
- Must be worn at or above the hip bones
- Tears or holes (distressing) should only appear at or below the knee; tears or holes above the knee must be worn with an under layer; no skin may be showing, through distressing, above the knee
- Leggings are permitted when shorts, skirt, or dress cover hips and derriere
- Underwear should not be visible

Shirts/Tops

- Tops must be long enough that when the arms are fully extended and raised overhead, the midriff is not exposed
- Necklines must ensure that cleavage is not visible
- Sleeveless shirts must be at least 3 finger widths on the shoulder; no undergarments (or portions of undergarments) or excessive skin (front, side, midriff, or back) may be showing
- Clothing design logos or endorsements of products may not refer to or infer gambling, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, foul language, sex, or violence

Hair and Accessories

- Hats and hoods shall not be worn in class or at the chapel
- Sunglasses may only be worn outside of the building
- Ear and small nose stud piercings are acceptable; no gauges or extreme piercings
- No minors, under age 18, may have visible permanent tattoos in compliance with Washington Code 26.28.085. Any exceptions must be approved by the principal

Sporting Events

- Hats, sweat suits or warm-ups may be worn during school-sponsored sporting events
- Athletes will be asked by their individual coaches to adhere to a higher standard of dress on game days and when traveling
- Athletic uniforms and practice attire may vary and will be approved by administration

Dress Code Enforcement Policy

- First Offense: The student will be sent to the office to procure appropriate clothing. When available, the student may be given something from the clothes closet or the parent will be called to provide alternative clothing. Parents will be notified.
- Second Offense: Will be handled as the first offense, plus an after school “work detention”. Parents will be notified.
- Third Offense: In the unlikely event that a third violation occurs, the issue will no longer be considered a dress code violation, but instead as persistent non-compliance. This will be dealt with in accordance with NCHS behavior standards (Level 2).

The Dress Code is in effect whenever students are on school premises, for any campus events that are off-campus, or where NCHS is being represented (i.e., field trips, school programs, etc.).

Administration reserves the right to amend the dress guidelines at any time.