

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Dress Code Philosophy

Northwest Christian High School has established the following dress code that all students are required to follow on campus, as well as off-campus school-sanctioned activities. Our guiding principles include:

- *Honoring God with our appearance* (Colossians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
Along with our words and actions, our appearance serves as a reflection of God. We strive to present ourselves in a way that honors Him.
- *Pursuing purity and rejecting worldliness* (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 12:1-2)
As the world pushes objectification of both self and others, we embrace the teachings of Scripture, which steer us towards personal purity and away from a secular mentality.
- *Looking to leadership for guidance* (Hebrews 13:17)
The leaders God has placed in our lives are there for our benefit and to provide wisdom. Leadership should be responded to with respect, understanding that they are actively working for our good.
- *Acting with consideration for others* (Philippians 2:3-4)
Nearly all decisions we make have an effect on others either directly or indirectly. Scripture reminds us to keep others at the forefront of our minds in our daily lives and actions.

Dress Code Expectations for All Students

- Respectful of God, self, and others
- Comfortable and appropriate for a full day of learning and movement
- Covered in a way that reflects modesty and age-appropriate boundaries
- Neat and worn as intended
- Appropriate for a variety of environments: classrooms, Chapel, physical and outdoor activities, etc.
- Free from messages, images, or designs that distract from learning or conflict with Christian values.
- Supportive of focus, safety, and participation in all school activities

Pants/Shorts

- All pants/shorts must be worn at or above the hip bones
- Shorts must have a 5-inch inseam or longer
- Skirts/dresses must be no shorter than 4 inches above the knee
- Pajama pants shall not be worn to school as regular pants
- Tears or holes (distressing) may 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, spandex pants/shorts are permitted, however, derriere must be covered with an additional layer.
- 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
- Sleeveless shirts must be at least 3 finger widths on the shoulder; undergarments and straps must be covered
- No excessive skin may show (front, side, midriff, or back), and necklines must ensure that cleavage is not visible

Accessories

- Hats may not be worn in the chapel
- Hoods and sunglasses may only be worn outside of the building
- Ear and small nose stud piercings are acceptable; no gauges or extreme piercings; no septum piercings.
- Face coverings are not permitted unless medically necessary
- No minors under age 18 may have visible permanent tattoos. Any student over the age of 18 who has a tattoo must have it approved by the principal.
- Costumes are permitted only on designated days
- Shoes must be worn at all times. (See PE Expectations for additional information)

Physical Education / Athletic Attire -

- Students should wear athletic shoes that fit securely and stay on during physical activity
- Clothing should support easy movement and active play
- Jewelry and accessories should be minimal for safety and may need to be removed
- A coat or jacket should be available for outdoor activities
- Shirts should be long enough to provide coverage during a full range of motion and movement
- NCS Athletics
 - Attire during games is subject to league requirements and the team uniform.
 - On game/spirit day, athletes may wear uniforms, however only if they adhere to the dress code.

Dress Code Enforcement

We approach dress code enforcement with the same grace-filled and proactive philosophy that shapes all of our discipline practices. When a student's attire does not align with expectations, staff will provide reminders and clear guidance, offer alternative options when available, or may ask for a change of clothing to be brought from home. These moments are treated as teachable opportunities to help students grow in wisdom and personal responsibility. Repeated dress code concerns will be addressed in accordance with our discipline policy. Questions regarding dress

code should be directed to the school administration, which reserves final authority in determining appropriate dress.

- First Offense: The student will be sent to the office to procure appropriate clothing. When available, the student may be given an item of clothing from the office 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.