

# FRIENDSHIP

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CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



## Standard of Dress 2020-2021

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## **Rationale for FCS Standard of Dress**

Scripture does not specifically stipulate how we should dress. However, God's Word does call us to be imitators of God (I Cor. 11:1), to be modest in our appearance (I Tim. 2:9), to do things in an orderly fashion (I Cor. 14:40), and to bring honor to Him (I Cor. 10:31). A standard of dress is one way Friendship Christian School meets these commands. We believe that a standard of dress creates an environment conducive to learning and fosters self-esteem in students. The purpose in our standard of dress is to establish a high benchmark of modesty, decorum, and academic excellence.

In an effort to be consistent with and to simplify our school dress, we are providing the principles and asking students and their families to apply these principles on an individual basis. Please reach out to us in advance (before wearing to school or removing tags) if you have any questions about a particular item.

Young men: Mr. McClain

Young ladies: Mrs. Soemer or Mrs. Baxter

All students are required to dress according to their biological gender noted on their birth certificate.

***The administration reserves the right to address the dress code on an individual basis and to make modifications as needed.***

Friendship Christian School has established guidelines for dress for the students. The dress code for our preschool and transitional kindergarten students is a little different from the rest of the school and is outlined in the following section.

### **PRESCHOOL**

- ***The following dress code has been established for our preschool program. This dress code still requires that your child's appearance be neat and clean at all times. Extremes will not be allowed.***
- **GIRLS MAY WEAR:**
  - Shorts, Capri pants (knee length or longer - A good way to measure this is to make sure the shorts come to within 3 inches of the crease in the back of the knee).
  - Jeans, pants, wind pants, sweat pants
  - Leggings may be worn if they are under a skirt or a dress that meets the length standard
  - Dresses or skirts (knee length or longer - The hemline, slit, or bottom button of the dress or skirt may be no higher than the top of the knee - one inch above the crease line in the back of the knee).
  - Sundresses are not approved.
  - Shirts – with or without collars (no tank tops)
  - All clothing must be loose-fitting and modest. If skirts or pants are worn and the shirt is tucked in, it must be long enough to stay tucked in. If the shirt is not tucked in, it must be long enough to fully cover the midriff when your child raises her hands over her head. No shirt may be short enough to show the midriff at any time.
- **BOYS MAY WEAR:**
  - Pants, jeans, wind pants, sweat pants
  - Shorts (knee length or longer)
  - Shirts – with or without collars (no tank tops or sleeveless shirts)

- Hair must be combed neatly and cut regularly. Hair color should be of a natural hair color. Hairstyles should be conservative in nature. This standard means no excessive spiking of hair, excessive bushiness, carving of letters or symbols, shaving of head or lines in the hair.
- **BOYS AND GIRLS:**
  - Shirts with or without collars may be worn. Designs on shirts are okay, but shirts should not contain scary or inappropriate characters or writing.
  - Students do not have to wear a belt, but pants or skirts must stay up without one. PLEASE do not put a belt on your child if they cannot unfasten/fasten it themselves.
  - Socks are not required. Flip flops or shoes without backs are not allowed. Shoes must have a strap on the back for safety reasons.
  - Coveralls are acceptable only if your child can fasten/unfasten them by themselves when wearing them.
- **GENERAL NOTES REGARDING DRESS CODE:**
  - If your child wears something to school that does not meet the requirements, we will send a behavior report indicating the concern.
  - Holiday symbols on clothing such as witches, ghosts, goblins are not appropriate (scary or not). Any type of tattoo on any part of the body is not allowed.

### **ELEMENTARY DRESS CODE: Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

- **General Guidelines:**
  - Violations may result in an orange tally for Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - Although a student in violation may have inadvertently been allowed to attend most of the day before a violation was noticed, he/she can still be referred for a dress code violation later in the day.
  - Absences due to dress code violations will be recorded as unexcused absences.
- **All Students (Kindergarten – 12<sup>th</sup> grade):**
  - Appropriate graphics and logos of any size that do not conflict with Biblical principles will be allowed **in Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade**.
  - No non-FCS graphics larger than about the palm of the hand are allowed **6<sup>th</sup>-12 grade**
  - Tattoos are not acceptable at the school, whether permanent or temporary. This policy includes drawing on oneself.
  - Body piercing is not permitted on or off campus (except for girls' ears up to three piercings per ear).
  - Hats, sunglasses or glasses without lenses may not be worn in the academic buildings.
  - Students must arrive, remain, and leave school in approved attire. A student must meet the appropriate school dress code at all times on campus and for attendance at any school function on or off campus.
  - For all award ceremonies, students must wear approved pants and appropriate shirt in order to receive their award on stage.
  - For field trips, outings, and athletic events, neatness and modesty are to be maintained. The teacher in charge will announce appropriate apparel.
- **Female Students (Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade)**
  - Dresses or skirts
    - Young ladies may wear **dresses or skirts** during the school day. The hemline, slit, or bottom button of the dress or skirt should be no higher than the top of the knee. The fit of the skirt must allow the student to sit modestly. Any wrap around skirt needs to be secured and should not be revealing in nature. Young ladies are not to wear any skirt that is

considered “low rise” in nature. All skirts should be worn at the natural hip line.

- Because of the nature of recess and gym class, a pair of shorts or leggings may need to be worn underneath the skirt or dress. The shorts should not be longer than the skirt. If leggings are worn, the skirt or dress must still meet the knee length requirement.

### **Pants**

- **Girls** may wear uniform style pants or capris purchased from any vendor. It is recommended to purchase them from Land’s End but not required. Girls may also wear other dressy, loose-fitting pants in various styles and colors; the uniform pants style is preferred.
- **General guidelines for girls’ pants or capris:** The pants may not be clingy or made of stretchy material (lycra, spandex, or yoga style), pajama-type pants, or leggings. If you purchase them too small, your child will not be allowed to wear them.
- Young ladies **attending athletic events** may wear casual pants, athletic pants, jeans or shorts -whether at home or away games- as long as the clothing meets the school standards. Shorts are to be modest in length. This applies to all FCS activities, games, programs, etc. whether on or off campus. Pants or jeans must meet the above guidelines.

### **Dress shorts, skorts**

- There are no calendar restrictions associated with this dress code. Please dress your children appropriately based on current weather conditions. During transitional periods, please send a coat or jacket if in doubt.
- Girls may wear uniform style shorts (navy, khaki, or black) purchased from any vendor. It is recommended to purchase them from Land’s End.
- General guidelines for girls’ shorts: Shorts must be long, traditional cut shorts that are clean, fit properly, and are in good condition. Shorts should be modest in length when sitting. A good way to measure this is to make sure the shorts come to within 3 inches of the crease in the back of the knee. The shorts may not be “low rise” in nature. They should be worn at the natural hip line. They should be loose-fitting, not tight or clingy. The shorts pants may not be stretch (lycra, spandex, or yoga style) material. **The rule is that one should be able to pinch an inch of loose material on all sides of the pants.** If you purchase them too small, your child will not be allowed to wear them. If you have questions, please do not remove the tags until you have received approval from the office.
- **Skorts** must follow the same requirements as the skirts and dresses and look like a skirt.

### **Blouses and shirts**

- Blouses and shirts must be loose fitting, not clingy. **The rule is that one should be able to pinch an inch of loose material on all sides of the shirt or blouse.** No skin should be showing between the neckline and the hem line. No skin should show around the navel when the young lady raises her arms above the head.
- All blouses and dresses must be at least 3” wide on the shoulders. At no time, including when arms are raised, may the shirt be revealing in nature. No tank tops are permitted. Thin shirts that are see-thru in nature should not be worn if they reveal the undergarments, or any other clothing that is not acceptable if worn alone, under the shirt. **The preference is that all shirts and blouses have collars.** Polo shirts with the school logo can be purchased from the school approved vendors.
- Dress t-shirts without writing are permitted. **The rule is that one should be able to pinch an inch of loose material on all sides of the shirt or blouse. The preference is that all shirts and blouses have collars.** Polo shirts with the school logo can be purchased from the school approved vendor.
- Necklines should not be too low (maximum is 3” below the collarbone). The neckline may in no way reveal the young lady’s cleavage. The back of the blouse or dress should go no lower than the front of the blouse or dress.
- Proper undergarments must be worn at all times. Clothing that resembles undergarments (including lingerie tops) cannot be worn as outerwear. At no time may a young lady wear

clothing, whether tucked in or not, that reveals her undergarments or undergarment lines. The young ladies should wear slips under their clothes, when necessary.

### **Shoes**

- Shoes are to be worn at all times. Girls are to wear safe and appropriate footwear. This standard means no flip-flops, slides, or high heels are allowed in the elementary. The shoes must have backs to them.
- Tennis shoes **MUST** be worn on gym days. Students will not be permitted to participate in gym class if they are wearing improper shoes. PE uniform requirements are sent home at the beginning of the year.

### **Girl's Miscellaneous**

- Jewelry and make-up should be modest and in good taste, no excessive styles are permitted.
- Hair color should be of one natural hair color at a time. Hairstyles should be conservative in nature. This standard means no excessive spiking of hair, carving of letters or symbols, shaving of head or lines in the hair. Any color or style that cannot be corrected will cause the student to be dismissed.

### **Activity Dress (for dress down days and other times as announced)**

- Young ladies may wear casual pants, athletic pants, jeans or shorts as long as the clothing meets the school standards. Shorts are to be modest in length within two inches of the crease at the back of the knee. This applies to all FCS activities, games, programs, etc. whether on or off campus. Pants or jeans must meet the above guidelines.

## **Young Ladies (Grades 6-12)**

### **General Guidelines for School Dress**

1. No blue jeans or camouflage
2. No athletic pants/athletic shorts; no yoga pants or leggings worn as pants; no jogging pants
3. No holes (including fish nets, etc.), rips, fading, etc.
4. Loose-fitting
5. No shorts

### **6. Disciplinary Action**

- **Policy Violations** are handled individually by administration following these guidelines.
  - Standard violations** refer to instances such as wearing improper shoes, forgetting to wear chapel attire on chapel day, or similar instances where the attire does not conform to the dress code but is modest in nature. These violations earn demerits--increasing demerits for repeat offenses. Students will be permitted to attend class; a demerit notice will be sent home via RenWeb.
  - Modesty violations** refer to clothing that is immodest or compromising--such as low necklines, see-through fabrics, tight skirts or pants, short skirts, tight shirts, or any other attire that is deemed immodest by the agreement of two or more faculty members. A student with a modesty violation may receive demerits for the first 2 offenses. Beginning with the 3rd offense, the student will earn detention (along with detention demerits noted in the discipline section) for the 3rd offense and every offense thereafter. Penalties will be sent home via RenWeb. Students with modesty violations may not be permitted to attend class until the violation is corrected. This may result in parents bringing appropriate clothing to school or the administration sending the student home.
- Demerits and detentions resulting from dress code violations are treated like any other policy violation and can lead to more serious disciplinary action.

### ***Modesty Principles***

1. Loose-fitting, not form-fitting; fabric should not cling to body (avoid spandex material)
2. Proper coverage
  - No visible undergarments or lines (Tops with gaping backs that show under-cami are not permitted.)
  - No sheer or see through fabric worn as attire
  - Does not reveal cleavage or midriff in any way (no low-cut tops, crop tops, cut outs, etc.)
  - No off-shoulder tops or other styles that do not have coverage (i.e: no tank tops, no spaghetti straps, no halter tops, no strapless tops, etc.).

### **Specifics**

**Pants** must be longer than mid-calf in length (longer than capris).

**Shorts for athletics** must be at least mid-thigh in length (more than half of the distance from in-seam to knee).

In order to provide a more consistent and focused learning environment, **shorts for dress privilege and dress down days** should be longer than the athletic shorts mentioned above. In keeping with the overall standard, shorts worn during the school day (to classes, etc.) should be near the top of the knee in length.

**Tops/Sweaters** do not show graphics or writing and are not revealing in nature (see note above). Off-the-shoulder shirts are not acceptable. No tank tops, no spaghetti straps, no strapless tops, no open backs, etc. are acceptable. Sleeveless shirts are fine. Students may not wear FCS PE shirt or other FCS t-shirts during the school day. Logos may be no larger than the size of a hand palm.

**FCS hoodies and sweatshirts** may be worn in class; other hoodies and jackets may be worn as long as logo is small (size of a hand palm) and is not contrary to FCS principles.

**Dresses and skirts** should be near the top of the knee.

- For high-low hemlines, pay attention to the shortest part of the hem.
- Slits should not be higher than the allowed skirt length.
- Leggings under a dress or skirt is fine as long as the hemline is still the correct length. (Example: a tunic top with leggings does **not** meet this standard.)

**Appropriate undergarments** are to be worn correctly and at all times.

**Shoes** may be sneakers or other closed shoes. Leather sandals are fine as well. No flip-flops.

**Hair** is to be a natural color and a conventional style.

**Hats and other headwear** are not to be worn in the building during school hours.

**Body piercings** are limited to ear piercings only (3 per ear) while at school or school functions.

**Tattoos** are not allowed.

### **Chapel Day**

Young ladies are to wear a dress or skirt on chapel days.

### **Dress Down / Dress Privilege All Students**

While following FCS principles and guidelines (modest, not tight, correct length, etc.), students may wear:  
loose-fitting blue jeans, athletic pants, joggers, and shorts  
shirts/sweatshirts with writing/graphics that are in agreement with FCS principles  
no pajamas unless specifically designated as a pajama day

- **Male Students (Kindergarten – 5th grade)**

- **Pants/Shorts**

- Young men must wear khakis or Docker-like slacks during school hours. Camouflaged pants and blue jeans are not permissible. No wind pants or sweats are allowed. Multi-pocketed cargo pants are not permissible.
    - Pants must be long, traditional cut pants that fit properly (not oversized), are clean, and are in good condition. Pants must be worn at or near the waistline.
    - There are no calendar restrictions associated with this dress code. Please dress your children appropriately based on current weather conditions. During transitional periods, please send a coat or jacket if in doubt. Shorts must come to the top of the knee. The shorts should be dress shorts with a button and zipper. Younger boys may still have an elastic waistband, but need to still have a dress appearance. Athletic shorts and jean shorts are not allowed.
    - Young men attending athletic events may wear casual pants, athletic pants, jeans or shorts-whether at home or away games- as long as the clothing meets the school standard. Shorts are to be to the top of the knee. Pants or jeans must be long, traditional cut pants that are clean, fit properly, and are in good condition. The pants, jeans or shorts must be worn at or near the waist. They should be loose-fitting, not tight or clingy. The pants may not be stretchy material or pajama-style pants.

- **Shirts**

- Collared shirts must be worn at all times during the school day. The collared shirt is to be a traditional polo, Oxford shirt, or dress shirt. Polo shirts with the school logo can be purchased from the school approved vendors. Shirts should fit properly and be worn in accordance to style and event.

- **Shoes**

- Young men may wear athletic shoes or dress shoes. They may not wear sandals, flip flops or slides.
    - Tennis shoes **MUST** be worn on gym days. Students must wear proper shoes in order to participate in PE activities.

- **Boy Miscellaneous**

- **Hair** is not to be over the eyebrows, ears, or shirt collar and must be a natural color.
    - **Jewelry**—no necklaces, earrings, or other body piercings are worn to be seen at school or at school functions.
    - PE uniform requirements are sent home at the beginning of the year.

- **Activity Dress (for dress down days and other times as announced)**

- Young men may wear casual pants, athletic pants, jeans or shorts as long as the clothing meets the school standard. Shorts are to be to the top of the knee. Pants or jeans must be long, traditional cut pants that are clean, fit properly, and are in good condition. The pants, jeans or shorts must be worn at or near the waist. They should be loose-fitting, not tight or clingy. The pants may not be stretchy material or pajama-type pants.

## **Young Men (Grades 6-12)**

### **General Guidelines for School Dress**

1. No blue jeans or camouflage
2. No athletic pants (sweatpants, jogging pants, etc.)
3. No rips, holes, fading, frays, etc.
4. Loose-fitting
5. No shorts

**Shirts** must have a collar. No graphics or writing. Logos should be no larger than the size of a hand palm.

**Pants** (cotton/twill) must be worn at natural waist line (not sagging or showing under garments).

**Belt** is preferred but not required.

**Hair** is not to be over the eyebrows, ears, or shirt collar and must be a natural color; face is to be shaven.

**Shoes** must be closed-toe and worn with socks; no sandals.

**Jewelry**—no necklaces, earrings, or other body piercings are worn to be seen at school or at school functions

**Hats or other head coverings** are not worn in the buildings.

**FCS hoodies and sweatshirts** may be worn in class; other hoodies and jackets may be worn as long as logo is small (size of a hand palm) and is not contrary to FCS principles.

**Tattoos** are not allowed.

### **Chapel Day**

Young men are to wear an Oxford shirt and a tie on chapel days.

### **Dress Down / Dress Privilege All Students**

While following FCS principles and guidelines (modest, not tight, correct length, etc.), students may wear:  
loose-fitting blue jeans, athletic pants, joggers, and shorts  
shirts/sweatshirts with writing/graphics that are in agreement with FCS principles  
no pajamas unless specifically designated as a pajama day