



Dress Code 2011-12

Philosophy

Our desire at GHCA is to be distinctively Christian in attitude, action, and appearance (I Cor. 10:31; Rom. 15:5-6). Our dress code is based on the principles of modesty, neatness, affordability, safety, and appropriateness. It seeks to provide students with several dress options that meet these standards. Our dress code has not been designed to measure spirituality in any way but to help ensure a school environment in which learning can take place without distraction. We fully understand that no set of rules, especially a dress code, can in and of itself produce spiritual maturity. However, a reasonable standard enforced respectfully and consistently can provide opportunities for personal growth and development of Christian character when applied in an atmosphere which seeks to integrate all aspects of life from a biblical perspective.

General

1. All clothing must be neat, clean, in good repair, and the appropriate size for the student: not oversized, sloppy, or tight-fitting. All clothing must be modest—not revealing or see-through. Students are expected to be clean and well-groomed and to practice good physical hygiene.
2. Dress and grooming must never contradict GHCA's biblical values. Logos, styles, etc., that violate biblical principles of wholesomeness and modesty are never appropriate at school functions of any kind.
3. Any clothing, jewelry, or grooming style that calls attention to itself and/or is disruptive in any way at school or school functions is unacceptable. Clothing styles and colors should be conservative and modest.
4. Students are to remain in appropriate dress code attire while on school grounds from the time they arrive until they depart.

Special Occasions

1. School Spirit days: students may wear GHCA apparel (T-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.) with neat jeans or regular dress code pants. Casual Days and athletic events: modest casual clothing such as jeans, athletic apparel, and T-shirts are acceptable.
2. Chapel attire (grades 1-12 only): Boys—dress shirt, and tie; Girls—Jumper, dress, or skirt and blouse (girls may wear pants from November through March).
3. Dress code for special functions and occasions such as field trips, banquets, and graduation-related activities will be announced as necessary.

Enforcement

1. Parents have the primary responsibility to make sure their children are dressed appropriately for school and conform to the dress and grooming code. Most dress/grooming issues can be avoided by parents ensuring that their students are complying with the standard. ***Parents are expected to support the school's position when questions arise.***
2. The school administration and staff will seek to enforce the dress code with consistency, fairness, respect, and with concern for not only an individual student but also for the larger school family.
3. Students in violation of the dress code may be asked to remain in the office until suitable clothing can be brought in and may be subject to disciplinary action. Students wearing acceptable clothing in an unacceptable manner may also be subject to disciplinary action.
4. The school reserves the right to evaluate and place restrictions as needed as new fashions and fads emerge. ***Final interpretation of the dress code rests solely with the administration.***

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

It is impossible and undesirable to provide an exhaustive list of acceptable and/or unacceptable items or practices. These guidelines are designed to provide a clear sense of the overall goal. Parents and/or students are encouraged to bring in questionable items for approval before wearing to school to prevent the possibility of disciplinary action.

	BOYS	GIRLS
PANTS & SHORTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress chinos/khakis, twill, corduroy, cargo, dress slacks • Pants must be hemmed or cuffed; not to be touching the floor or higher than ankle • No boxers/briefs are to be visible • Modest-length walking shorts or cargo shorts (<i>Sep, May, Jun</i>) • Unacceptable: denim, camouflage, sweatpants, leather pants, etc. (PreK-Gr. 6 may wear non-blue, non-faded, solid-color denim pants.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress chinos/khakis, twill, corduroy, cargo, dress slacks • Pants must be hemmed or cuffed; not to be touching the floor or higher than ankle • Modest-length walking shorts, cargo shorts, cropped pants, or capris (<i>Sep, May, Jun</i>) • Unacceptable: denim, stretch, camouflage, sweatpants, zip-off, leather pants, etc. (PreK-Gr. 6 may wear non-blue, non-faded, solid-color denim pants.)
SKIRTS & DRESSES	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skirts, jumpers, or dresses may be worn, but must not be tight-fitting or of clingy fabrics; • Modest knee-length culottes, split skirts, skorts, gauchos • Length must fall to top of knee while standing, including slits, even when wearing leggings • Denim skirts & jumpers must not be faded • Chapel days: dress, jumper, or skirt and blouse
SHIRTS &/OR BLOUSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collared, dress, oxford, or polo shirts • Turtleneck, mock-turtleneck shirts • Rugby shirts and crew neck shirts with 2 or 3 button closure • Only shirts with squared bottoms may be worn untucked • Chapel days: dress shirts & ties • Unacceptable: T-shirts, sweatshirts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modest shirts/blouses with or without collars • Polo shirts, sweaters, vests, turtlenecks • Rugby shirts and crew neck shirts with 2 or 3 button closure • Must be appropriately buttoned • Unacceptable: bare midriffs when arms raised, bare backs; sleeveless, sheer, low-cut or revealing tops; T-shirts, sweatshirts
SWEATERS & OUTERWEAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardigan & pullover sweaters and sweater vests • Fleece vests & jackets, GHCA hoodies only • Unacceptable: outdoor coats, hats, gloves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardigan & pullover sweaters and sweater vests • Fleece vests & jackets, GHCA hoodies only • Unacceptable: outdoor coats, off-the-shoulder sweaters, hats, gloves
SHOES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletic & dress shoes; socks required • Unacceptable: military boots, cleats, moccasins, athletic or beach-style sandals or flip-flops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean dress or casual shoes; sneakers • Unacceptable: cleats, slippers, moccasins, beach sandals or flip-flops
JEWELRY & TATTOOS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No body-piercing jewelry or earrings • No large-size or thick neck chains or chokers • No tattoos (real or fake) may be visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No body-piercing jewelry except earrings • No tattoos (real or fake) may be visible
HAIR &/OR MAKE-UP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed • Length: must be out of the eyes, and off the ears and collar • Must be clean shaven (seniors may wear neatly groomed facial hair that is not distracting) • No distracting hairstyles or colors allowed including unnatural hair colors, designs, or unnatural color highlights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed • No distracting hairstyles or colors allowed including unnatural hair colors, designs, or unnatural color highlights • Make-up: tasteful, not excessive; giving a natural appearance.