



VANCOUVER CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL
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DRESS CODE

RATIONALE

In line with our basic school philosophy, the area of dress and social grace for young people is primarily a function of the home (parents). We take into account five major factors regarding this area: (1) cultural standards are major variables; (2) individual and family standards and their enforcement vary widely; (3) some families leave this area of education up to the school; (4) the community, including those with children in the school, judges the school by the dress of the staff and students; (5) varieties in dress and/or dress standards are not sin in and of themselves, although individuals may vary in their conviction. (I Sam. 16:7, Rom. 14) For these reasons, Vancouver Christian High School must have a clear, stipulated, enforceable dress code. Our appearance is an indication of many of our personal values and attitudes.

In designing guidelines in the area of dress, we want to: (1) keep the responsibilities for clothing standards in the home as much as possible, (2) avoid identifying some particular dress style as the only Christian one, and (3) keep clothing problems from looming so large that students can't see or hear what the school is really trying to say to them. (Eph. 6:4)

OBJECTIVES

1. To dress in such a way that our living testimony will glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. (Colossians 3:17)
2. To dress in such a way that we build habits of cleanliness, modesty, neatness, and good grooming. This helps implement the development of social graces.
3. To build self-acceptance because of knowing "I look nice" (modest attractiveness).
4. To maintain the obvious differentiation between the sexes. (Deuteronomy 22:5)
5. The clothing is functional, i.e., is well-suited to the activity of the wearer.
6. To dress appropriately for an activity demonstrates our respect for others by avoiding extreme or immodest dress. (Philemon 4:5)
7. To avoid competition that seeks to draw attention to self or gender.
8. To encourage each student to gain recognition through personal character and conscientious work.
9. To dress in a way that will not adversely affect behavior.

GENERAL

1. To help build habits of cleanliness and good grooming, the following guidelines are recommended:
 - Regular bathing
 - Deodorant
 - Daily brushing of teeth
 - Trimmed and clean fingernails
2. Clothing must fit properly. Pants must fit appropriately around the waist and buttocks. Sleeve length must be the appropriate length, not oversized. Pant legs should be straight or have a mild flair.
3. Clothing must not be worn inside out.
4. Clothing must be clean and in good repair, i.e., no rips, holes, split seams, frayed pant legs, dirty-looking clothes, or bleached-out material.
5. Shoes must be clean and in good repair.
6. If a sweater/sweatshirt is worn in class, it must follow dress code requirements.
7. PE clothing or athletic wear is not acceptable classroom attire.
8. Lounging wear is not acceptable attire (long underwear, flannel pants, etc.)
9. Wording and/or symbols on clothing and accessories must not be in contradiction with Christian values or VCHS standards and beliefs.
10. Advance notice will be given if particular clothing is to be worn for a special school event or field trip.
11. No jewelry with compromising symbolism will be allowed. Examples: swastika, ankh, pentagram, crystals, skulls, etc. Administration will decide on individual items.
12. No permanent tattoos are allowed.
13. Dress code applies to all school activities.

CONTINUED

WOMEN

1. Mondays and Fridays: Dresses, skirts, or jumpers are the required attire. Dresses/skirts must be no higher than 2" above the kneecap when worn appropriately and student is standing, and must be full enough not to pull up when seated. Dresses must have sleeves. All slits or button openings must be modest. (Administration may decide on individual items.) Culottes, gaucho pants, or "skorts" are not acceptable.
Winter Weather Wear on Mondays and Fridays: Girls may wear full length dress pants, cords, cargo pants, or Dockers. This is appropriate wear for January only.
2. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays: In addition to dresses, skirts, or jumpers, jeans of any color are acceptable attire. Shorts are also acceptable (see guideline #3 below). Pants must fit appropriately (see general guidelines number 2 and 4). Leggings, spandex, flannel pull-on pants, nylon pants, and sweatpants are not permitted.
3. Shorts must be cotton twill walking shorts equal to or longer than fingertip length. No sports shorts or shorts of worn or faded fabric.
4. Shirts and blouses must have sleeves. Tank tops are not allowed, unless worn underneath another shirt that meets dress code. Tops, if worn untucked, must overlap the top of the skirt or pant by a minimum of four inches. There is to be no separation of top and pant or skirt, no matter what the posture. Garments with non-Christian sayings or compromising emblems, slogans, pictures, or characters are unacceptable. Individual tops may be deemed unacceptable at the discretion of the administration.
5. All outfits are to be modest. Tight fitting, sheer, or low-cut-necklined shirts/blouses are not permitted.
6. Sweatshirts/sweaters/jackets: All sweatshirts/sweaters/jackets must be worn with a shirt or blouse underneath (no shoulderless garments). Garments with non-Christian sayings or compromising emblems, slogans, or pictures are unacceptable.
7. Hairstyles must be neat and worn in a style out of the eyes. Extravagant makeup, accessories, hairstyles, or hair colors are not permitted. If a desired hairstyle is questionable, seek approval from the school office first. Caps, hats, hoods, and bandannas are not to be worn inside the school building.
8. Earrings are to be worn in the ears only. No other visible piercings are allowed.
9. If you have questions about particular clothing, please check with the office.

MEN

1. Pants:
Mondays and Fridays: Dress pants, cords, cargo, or Dockers are required.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays: Dress pants, cords, cargo, Dockers, or jeans of any color are acceptable attire. Shorts are also acceptable (see guideline #2 below). All pants must fit appropriately (see general guidelines numbers 2 and 4). Sweatpants, nylon pants, and flannel pull-on pants are not permitted.
2. Shorts must be cotton twill walking shorts equal to or longer than fingertip length. No sports shorts or shorts of worn or faded fabric.
3. Shirts:
Mondays and Fridays: Collared shirts with buttons are required. Shirts must be neat, clean, and buttoned up. Collars must be visible even when wearing another shirt/jacket of any kind over the collared shirt (including sweaters, sweatshirts, etc.). If there is any printing on the shirt, it must follow the guidelines for Tuesday–Thursday.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays: Garments with non-Christian sayings or compromising emblems, slogans, pictures, or characters are unacceptable. Tank tops are not allowed, unless worn underneath another shirt that meets dress code standards. Individual tops may be deemed unacceptable at the discretion of the administration. All shirts are to be neat, clean, and buttoned when wearing a shirt with buttons.
4. Sweatshirts/sweaters/jackets: All sweatshirts/sweaters/jackets must be worn with a shirt underneath. Garments with non-Christian sayings or compromising emblems, slogans, or pictures are unacceptable.
5. Caps, hats, hoods, and bandannas are not to be worn inside the school building.
6. Hair is to be kept clean, combed, and at moderate length. At all times hair is to be out of the eyes. The appropriate length: not below the bottom of the collar in the back. No outlandish hairstyles or colors will be accepted. Boys may not wear ponytails or braids. If a desired hairstyle is questionable, seek approval from the office first.
7. Boys are not allowed to wear earrings, plugs, and/or spacers of any kind. No visible piercings are allowed.
8. If you have questions about particular clothing, please check with the office.