Student Dress Guidelines

Our HCS community values safety, respect, and individuality regarding the dress code. We also believe that the students, and their parents, have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress, cleanliness, grooming and appearance at school and school functions. The following guidelines have been developed to help support these values.

Noah's Ark Preschool (K2, K3, K4)

The Preschool dress guidelines have been designed to help the children feel comfortable and independent as they learn to be a part of the school community. While there is no uniform, please keep the following in mind:

- ❏ All pants/shorts should be elastic waist so that they are able to pull up/down on their own, when needing to use the bathroom.
- ❏ If girls choose to wear skirts/dresses, they need to either wear shorts or tights underneath.
- ❏ No halter tops, tube tops, or shirts with spaghetti straps should be worn.
- ❏ If your child tends to run cool in the classroom, you may choose to layer their shirts.
- ❏ Shoes should be velcro/buckle/slip-on shoes only. Please no flip flops, as when they run, they tend to fall off or they can potentially trip. Please make sure your child's shoes are comfortable for playing in the gym/playground.
- ❏ If your child is wearing any kind of jewelry, please understand there is always a potential of it getting lost or broken.
- ❏ If your child chooses to have long hair, it is advised to start the day with it away from their face- (head bands, barrette, pony, braid..) This will *attempt* to help keep their hair out of their mouth, eyes, crafts, food, etc.

HCS Elementary Guidelines (K5 through 5th grade)

> The youngest members of our school community lead a very active school life! In order to ensure that they are able to do so safely and comfortably, their dress code varies slightly from the dress guidelines for our Middle and High School.

On all days, except for designated dress down days, our Elementary students should plan to wear the following:

Shirts, sweaters, and sweatshirts that have the HCS branding.

- Any shirt that is purchased with the HCS branding is acceptable for regular class days (Including HCS polos, HCS spirit gear, and gym shirts).
- During the colder months, students may wish to also wear our HCS hoodies, HCS sweaters, and HCS warm-up jackets.

Pants that are clean, neat, and in good condition

- Students may wear denim, corduroy, or khaki pants (in any color), sturdy leggings, or skorts that are free from rips, distressing, or text/logos on the backside. If a student chooses to wear a skirt, we ask that they wear shorts underneath.
- During the warmer months, the administration will announce variances to the dress code that include shorts and capris. Shorts should be loose fitting and of modest length. A good rule of thumb is that shorts should be longer than your fingertip when your arms are extended.

Shoes that are safe and comfortable

- ❏ Sneakers should be worn with socks and laces; laces should be fully laced and tied to avoid tripping
- ❏ We recommend a backstrap for sandals for safety, and closed toe for any other shoes

Gym Class Attire

Students in K5 through 5th grade should come to school in gym class attire on the days that they have gym class (your child's classroom teacher will give you this information).

Gym attire for all elementary grades includes an HCS gym T-shirt, modest shorts, sweat or athletic pants and sneakers.

HCS Middle and High School Guidelines (6th grade through 12th grade)

> Every student is learning how to be a member of a vibrant community of faith at HCS. Our dress guidelines are designed to create a safe environment where everyone can focus on learning.

On all days, except for designated dress down days, our Middle and High School students should plan to wear the following:

Shirts, sweaters, and sweatshirts that have the HCS branding.

- Any shirt that is purchased with the HCS branding is acceptable for regular class days (including HCS polos, HCS spirit gear, and gym shirts).
- During the colder months, students may wish to also wear our HCS hoodies, HCS sweaters, and HCS warm-up jackets.

Pants that are clean, neat, and in good condition

- Students may wear denim, corduroy, or khaki pants (in any color) that are free from rips, distressing, or logos/text on the backside. No skirts or dresses, please. Leggings are not permitted.
- During the warmer months, administration will announce variances to the dress code that include shorts and capris. Shorts should be loose fitting and of modest length. A good rule of thumb is that shorts should be longer than your fingertip when your arms are extended.

Shoes that are safe and comfortable

- ❏ Sneakers should be worn with socks and laces should be fully laced and tied to avoid tripping.
- ❏ We recommend a backstrap for sandals for safety, and closed toe for any other shoes.

Gym Class Attire

Gym attire for middle and high school includes a HCS gym T-shirt, HCS shorts, or HCS sweatpants. (All available to order through our school store.) Students may come to school and stay in their gym class attire throughout the day or choose to change. If a student chooses to wear HCS shorts for gym, they must change before and after gym class.

During the warmer months, the administration will announce variances to the dress code that allow students to remain in their HCS shorts for the entirety of the school day.

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On all days, including designated dress down days, our HCS dress guidelines help us to create an environment that is conducive to learning and respects all members of our community. In that spirit, <u>all</u> students should please avoid the following:

- Any dress or appearance that poses a threat or danger to the health and safety of students (e.g., hanging chains, dog-type collars, wallet chains, etc.)
- Any dress or appearance which is vulgar, lewd, obscene or indecent or profane or which exposes to sight the private parts of the body (e.g., t-shirts with a phallic symbol and messages consisting of sexual metaphors, exposed undergarments.
- Any dress or appearance which advocates or encourages illegal or violent activities.
- Any dress or appearance which advocates discrimination or denigrates others based upon race, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- The wearing of hats, visors or any other head covering in the classroom (unless worn for religious or hygiene reasons, students should not have jacket hoods up);
- Any piercings that pose a safety or hygiene concern, and piercings should be limited to the ears and nose.
- Any dress or appearance which constitutes a disruption to the educational process.
- Revealing garments, sleeveless shirts, plunging necklines (front and/or back), see-through garments, etc. are not appropriate.
- Footwear that is a safety hazard will not be allowed. Because of their destructive nature, no metal cleats or taps will be permitted on boots or shoes.
- Visible tattoos should contain content befitting a Christian environment, otherwise to be covered.

Dress Down Days for Elementary, Middle, and High School

On designated dress down days, our students may also wear athletic shorts or pants, and sweatpants. Students are also not required to wear HCS-branded shirts. Dress down attire should be consistent with the values expressed in the guidelines above.

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Coaching Procedure for Dress Guidelines:

Of course, situations may arise in which a student is not in compliance with the dress guidance as expressed. The enforcement of this policy is the responsibility of the Department Supervisors and the School Administrator at their discretion.

- ❏ 1st Offense: The student will be given a verbal reminder regarding the dress code. If it is deemed necessary for the student to change, he/she may be sent to the office for this purpose. A notification may be sent to the parent for informational, but not disciplinary purposes.
- ❏ 2nd Offense: The student will be given a written referral and his/her parents will be notified. If it is deemed necessary for the student to change, he/she may be sent to the office for this purpose.
- ❏ 3rd Offense: The student will be given a written referral. The student and his/her parents will be contacted by the administration to establish an action plan. If it is deemed necessary for the student to change, he/she may be sent to the office for this purpose.

  Any further violations of this policy will result in corrective discipline, up to or including a suspension pending a meeting with administration.

Please sign, detach, and return the slip below, keeping the dress code for your reference.

DRESS GUIDANCE COMPLIANCE FORM

I agree with, and will comply with, the HCS Dress Guidance as outlined above.

_____ _____

Print Name of Parent/Guardian *Date*

_____

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

_____

Print Name of Student(s)

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