

HARVESTCHRISTIANACADEMY

High School Student Dress Code

DRESS & APPEARANCE

Harvest Christian Academy High School dress code is intended to reflect God's call to modesty while maintaining a positive and professional learning environment. Our primary goal of the dress code is to create a learning environment free of distractions. Parents can help achieve this end by supporting a standard of dress in the home before the student comes to school each day.

HCA is striving to help students make appropriate life decisions, which includes respectful appearance in a variety of settings. Understanding that we are after the heart, not as a legalistic ruling, but to train students to be conscientious about their appearance. Consequently, our appearance should encourage concentrated study and should in no way distract from the learning environment.

The dress code of HCA is to be observed each day during the school year and for participation in school programs, performances outside of school, field trips etc. unless specific permission has been granted by the administration.

The school does not prohibit hairstyles that are historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists.

MODESTY

A student's appearance should reflect his/her identity as a follower of Christ. Everything we do is an expression of our relationship with God, and in His Word, God makes it clear that we are to be modest and treat our bodies with utmost respect. Therefore, modest dress guidelines is the stand for all students in our Christian school setting. Modesty alleviates the potential for unnecessary distractions in the classroom and respects the learning environment.

PROFESSIONAL

HCA's academic program is designed to prepare and equip students for post-secondary success. This is a place to prepare our students for their future when they may have various appearance codes at their place of employment or other venues.

It is important to note that these standards do not involve morality, rather they are preferences that HCA seeks to uphold in our school community. The goal of these guidelines is that they are measurable, consistent, easily understood and enforceable. Students are expected to follow the school dress code, including exam days and while on campus before and after school. Our expectation is that parents will teach, reinforce and promote these principles in support of the school. If parents have any questions related to the dress code, or specific questions about student dress, please contact an administrator.

VIOLATIONS

If a student violates dress code:

- First time violation: warning and parents notified. A change of clothes may be required.
- Second and third violations: detention
- Fourth violation: parent conference and a detention.
- Fifth violation: half day Saturday (4 hours) detention.

GENERAL STANDARDS

- All clothing should be in good repair. Clothing with holes or rips may not be worn.
- Designs or slogans which do not meet the professional standards of Harvest Christian Academy, including musicians or musical events may not be worn at school.
- Any clothing or personal appearance that tends to call undue attention to the individual is not acceptable.
- Clothing should completely cover undergarments and necessary body parts at all times. Boys and girls should take care to ensure tops are not plunging or revealing at the neckline.
- Boys and girls should ensure that their pants cover boxers and undergarments.

Shirts, Dresses, Skirts, and Tops

- Tank tops are unacceptable. At no time, should undergarments be showing, including bra straps.
- Students should take care to wear modest clothing styles that consistently cover their midsections while standing in normal posture.

Jeans, Pants, and Shorts

- Shorts must have an inseam length of at least 7 inches. Many in-style shorts do not meet this professional requirement and should be saved for after school hours.
- Shorts and pants must have a zipper and a button.
- Athletic attire is not permitted to be worn during school hours which includes, athletic shorts, yoga pants, flared yoga pants, sweatpants or joggers.
- Leggings and all legging-type pants may not be worn at school.
- Pants may not be constructed in a knit fabric. They should not be constructed in an overall style that is too tight or body shape revealing. Under no circumstances are leggings considered pants.

FORMAL EVENT ATTIRE

The most difficult task for administration is the determination of modesty, which is often at odds with cultural fashion trends. We ask that you be considerate by not putting the administration in a difficult position. We do not want to cause any embarrassment by having to notify a student who arrives at an event that their attire is inappropriate. Modesty is a somewhat subjective interpretation, but one we have a duty to uphold.

Formal event dress code guidelines must be followed by all attendees at events (both current HCA student and off-campus guests).

- Attire should reflect a formal family occasion (like a wedding) rather than a night on the town or evening at a club.
- Dresses that are too revealing, exposing midriffs or cleavage, or are too short in length are not appropriate (anything shorter than mid-thigh).
- To avoid confusion or issues at an event, administration is willing to pre-approve outfits based on a picture of the student in the outfit.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ATTIRE

Students must change into appropriate athletic wear for Physical Education classes.

- This includes non-spandex shorts with a minimum inseam of 5 inches, sweatpants, or joggers.
- Students may not wear crop tops or sport bras as a shirt. Midriffs should be covered.
- Athletic attire is not acceptable outside of P.E. class during the school day.

Please note that the administration reserves the right to amend the dress code as needed to address new fads and styles that arise with the school year. The administration reserves the right to ask a student to stop wearing or displaying a particular style of dress, hairstyle, or appearance if deemed to be consistent with the standards and intent of HCA's dress code. The administration retains the right to monitor the dress of HCA students during school functions both on and off campus and to request compliance from students when necessary.