

APPEARANCE CODE FOR STUDENTS

Revised 1/2022

In accordance with God's Word and to be consistent with our school philosophy, the students of Conestoga Christian School are expected to dress in a manner that will honor God and show respect for others. It is a challenge for Christian families to discern what is appropriate and what is not. Neatness and modesty are very important. The following guidelines have been established to give direction to the students and their parents. Parents are responsible to see that their children are in compliance. Rule of thumb: When in doubt, don't wear it. The school dress code is in effect for students while on the school campus and at school-sponsored events off-campus. (11/2018)

All Students in grades PK-12

General Expectations

- Dress needs to be modest and neat.
- Hair needs to be well groomed and out of the face.
- Clothing and accessories that may distract others or are unsafe are not acceptable. Underclothing may not be visible.
- Logos and wording (cartoons, images, slogans, music groups, etc.) that go against the school's philosophy are not permitted. References to alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, weaponry, violence, or illegal activity are unacceptable.
- For safety reasons, footwear is to be worn at all times during the school day.
- Shoes with wheels are not permitted.
- Hats may not be worn in the buildings during regular school hours.
- Visible body art is not permitted; including but not limited to drawing and/or writing on any part of the student's body.
- Piercings (except ear piercing for girls) are not permitted.

Pants

- Pants must rest securely on the hips.
- Form-fitting pants should not be worn.
- **For students in grades 4-12**, leggings may be worn under shorts, dresses, and skirts that meet the appearance code guidelines. Leggings may not be worn alone as pants.
- **For students in preschool, kindergarten, and grades 1-3**, leggings are permitted to be worn as pants. Clothing intended as sleepwear may not be worn.
- Pants with holes are not to be worn if any part of the skin is visible.
- No athletic pants may have writing across the backside. Pants that have writing on the leg are permitted (as long as the writing adheres to CCS guidelines), but writing across the backside is not permitted.

Shorts

- Modest shorts (5 inch inseam) or capri pants may be worn for the months of August, September, October, April, May, and June. In the other school months when the local (Morgantown) forecast is 60 degrees or higher students may wear shorts that meet CCS standards.
- Shorts must have an inseam of at least 5 inches.
- Shorts must rest securely on the hips.
- Form fitting shorts should not be worn. Spandex shorts worn alone are not acceptable. Spandex shorts may be worn under shorts, skirts, or dresses that meet the appearance code guidelines.
- No shorts may have writing across the backside. Shorts that have writing on the leg are permitted (as long as the writing adheres to CCS guidelines), but writing across the backside is not permitted.

Shirts

- Shirts need to have sleeves.
- Midriff/short-cut shirts or tops are not permitted.
- Shirts need to cover the entire stomach/midriff when raising a hand.
- Shirts need to cover the entire back when seated.

- Bottoms of shirts need to be tucked in or extend below the waistline of pants/shorts/skirts.
- Shirts and blouses need to be modest (not form fitting or low cut).
- Tops may be cut no lower than the wearer's hand width when thumb is placed at the base of the neck.

Girls

- Dresses, skirts, or long shirts/tunics worn with or without tights/leggings may not be more than 2 inches from the top of the knee when standing.
- For any article of clothing that includes sheer fabric, there must be a garment worn underneath of the sheer fabric that adheres to the school dress code.
- Cleavage may not show when standing, sitting down, or bending over.

Physical Education Classes

- Middle school and high school students are required to wear athletic shorts with an inseam of at least 5 inches or loose fitting athletic pants.
- Shirts must have sleeves.
- Sneakers are to be worn and need to have non-marking soles.
- No school sports uniforms may be used for PE classes.

Special Events

- Teachers or student organizations may request "dress" clothes for certain special occasions or events. "Dress" clothes are collared shirts for guys and dresses, skirts, or dress pants for girls or as specified by the teacher. Ties may be required for guys. Special events include, but are not limited to, musical presentations, designated chapels, designated field trips, etc.
- For all formal/semiformal events (including school-sponsored awards banquets): No gowns/dresses with low-cut necklines are to be worn. Cleavage and undergarments are not to show while standing, sitting, or bending over. No strapless gowns/dresses are to be worn. Single strap gowns/dresses must have a strap no less than 1.5" wide. No gowns/dresses with low-cut backs are to be worn. The back and sides of the gown/dress may not be lower than the bra line, i.e., no skin may show below the bra line. The length of the dress/skirt, including any slits, must be no more than 2" from the top of the kneecap when standing. If the dress includes sheer fabric, the opaque underpinnings must adhere to this dress code. For the Jr/Sr banquet guys are to wear dress pants, dress shirt, tie, and/or jacket or formalwear.
- For any school-sponsored event involving swimwear, girls must wear one-piece modest swimsuits. A two-piece suit is permitted as long as no midriff is showing, unless the facility being used has a more restrictive rule. Guys' trunks must rest securely on the hips. No "Speedos" may be worn.

Enforcement of the Student Appearance Code

Teachers and staff are to refer the student to the appropriate principal. The principal will collaborate with one or two other administrative team members of the same gender as the student being referred. A collaborative decision will be made regarding non-adherence of the dress code. Violations will be recorded in FACTS. Parents will be contacted for students who show a pattern of not following the appearance code.

Students who violate the appearance code may be asked to change or to wear clothing provided by the building principal.