

EVERGREEN

CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Philosophy of ECS Dress Code Policy

At Evergreen Christian School, we believe that clothing should reflect our commitment to honoring God, respecting ourselves and others, and creating a learning environment free from distraction. Students are asked to dress in a manner that is neat, modest, clean, and appropriate for all school activities.

**Administration reserves the right to determine whether clothing or appearance is appropriate for school.*

A Heart of Grace, Truth, and Mutual Respect

Dress code violations are viewed as **opportunities to partner with families in helping students learn responsibility and good judgment rather than as punitive offenses.**

At Evergreen Christian School, we believe every student is created intentionally in the image of God and is worthy of dignity, honor, and respect. Our dress code exists not to shame or single out students, but to help cultivate a school culture that reflects modesty, humility, self-respect, and consideration for others. We desire for every student to be known for their Christlike character rather than outward appearance, while also helping protect each student's safety, privacy, and God-given personhood.

Our goal is to teach students that the choices they make (including how they present themselves) can demonstrate respect for themselves, those around them, and the learning environment. As students mature, we view these conversations as opportunities to disciple the heart, encourage wisdom, and reinforce personal responsibility in a loving and grace-filled manner.

General Dress Code (All Students K–8)

Clothing

Students must wear clothing that:

- Is clean and in good repair.
- Fits appropriately (not excessively tight, oversized, or revealing).
- Covers undergarments completely.
- Covers the midriff, chest, and back at all times.
- Is appropriate for the day's scheduled activities.

The following are not permitted:

- Clothing with offensive, violent, sexual, or inappropriate language or graphics.
- References to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, or gambling.

- Clothing promoting hate groups or political messages intended to provoke division.
- Pajamas or sleepwear (except during approved spirit days).
- Costumes outside of designated school events.

Shorts, Skirts, Dresses, and Skorts

Must be:

- Modest in fit.
- No shorter than **7-inch inseam** or sit no more than **5 inches above the knee**
- Worn with shorts/bike shorts underneath if movement may compromise length.

Shirts

Shirts must:

- Cover shoulders (minimum 2-inch strap width).
- Cover the stomach even when arms are raised.
- Not be low-cut in the front or back.

Not permitted:

- Crop tops
- Tube tops
- Halter tops
- Spaghetti straps
- Off-the-shoulder tops

Pants and Leggings

Pants should:

- Be worn at the waist.
- Not drag on the ground.
- Be free from excessive rips or holes above the knee.

Leggings, jeggings, and athletic tights:

- May be worn under dresses or shorts.
- If worn as pants, they must be paired with a shirt or tunic that covers the hips and backside.

Shoes

Students must wear shoes at all times.

Acceptable footwear includes:

- Tennis shoes
- Boots
- Dress shoes
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Not permitted:

- Crocs
- Slippers
- Slides / Sandals
- Any form of wheel shoes
- Bare feet

*PE classes and sports require closed-toed, athletic shoes. You will not be allowed to participate in your class without the proper footwear. This could result in a zero on participation for that day.

Outerwear

Hoodies, jackets, and sweatshirts may be worn indoors unless otherwise directed by teachers.

Hoods should remain down while inside school buildings.

Hair

Hair should be:

- Relatively clean and well groomed.
- Styled so it does not interfere with learning or safety.

Hair color should remain within naturally occurring shades unless approved for a special event.

Hats

Hats, caps, and hoods are not to be worn indoors unless:

- Approved for medical reasons
- Part of a school event
- Approved by administration

Jewelry

Jewelry should not:

- Create a safety concern.
 - Become a distraction.
 - Include inappropriate symbols or messages.
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Special Events and Chapel Dress Code

ECS Performance Dress Code

Because students will periodically participate in events that require attire beyond the daily school dress code, Evergreen Christian School has established a **Performance Dress Code** for designated school functions.

These events include, but are not limited to, the Christmas Program, academic competitions (such as the Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, and Math Olympics), academic awards ceremonies, chapel services for participating students, graduation ceremonies, and other special school events as determined by the administration.

- **ECS Chapel Dress Code Requirements:** On chapel days and special event chapels, students attire should reflect “Sunday clothes”, or church appropriate attire.

Students ON STAGE during chapel represent our school in both behavior and dress and must adhere to the following dress code guidelines:

- Boys: Nice shirts (no graphic tees, collared shirts preferred), no holes in pants or distressed denim
 - Girls: Nice blouses or collared shirts with pants (jeans without holes are allowed), skirts and dresses allowed (in compliance with overall dress code)
 - Both boys and girls: No shorts, very casual t-shirts, jeans with holes, joggers, hats, slides, or athletic leggings during chapel OR on stage.
- **Special Events, Chapels, & Holidays**
 - *Christmas Program:* Students are asked to dress up significantly for this event, and to adhere to the colors and styles selected by teachers and administrators.
 - *Veteran’s Day Chapel:* In reverence and honor of our veterans, students must dress as in Performance Dress Code and not wear casual attire, jewelry, and to adhere to the colors and styles selected by teachers and administrators.
 - *Academic Competitions/Award Ceremonies/Graduations:* Performance Dress Code attire is required for all of these events
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Additional Guidelines for Grades 5–8

As students mature, we ask them to demonstrate increased responsibility in presenting themselves with care, respect, and intention.

Clothing Fit

Clothing should not be:

- Skin-tight
- Sheer or transparent

- Excessively oversized
- Designed to intentionally draw attention to the body

Makeup

Light, natural makeup is permitted.

The following are not appropriate:

- Heavy, very dark makeup
- Costume-style makeup

Administration may ask students to remove excessive makeup or have a discussion with parents.

Nails

Students may wear nail polish.

The following may be restricted:

- Excessively long / distracting acrylic nails
- Nails that interfere with classroom participation, writing/tech use, or PE

Jewelry & Piercings

Students may wear:

- Modest earrings
- Watches (Smart watches ONLY in school mode / turned off during school hours)
- Simple necklaces
- Small bracelets

Not permitted:

- Jewelry creating safety hazards or distractions
- Spiked jewelry
- Accessories that could be used inappropriately

Facial piercings may be prohibited unless specifically approved by administration.

Accessories

Students should avoid accessories that create distractions, including:

- Large costume accessories
- Excessive, large chains
- Sunglasses worn indoors (unless medically necessary)

Personal Hygiene

Students are expected to maintain good personal hygiene, including:

- Clean clothing
- Regular bathing
- Appropriate use of deodorant (5th-8th grade)
- Hair kept clean and groomed

Parents may be contacted if hygiene consistently impacts the learning environment.

Spirit Days & Dress Down Days

On designated dress-down and Spirit days:

- Clothing must still meet safety standards and modesty expectations.
- Ripped jeans must not expose skin above the knee.
- Athletic wear must remain appropriate.
- Administration may ask students to change if attire is deemed inappropriate.

Consequences

Students who are out of dress code may:

1. Receive a reminder or warning from a teacher/staff member.
2. Be asked to correct the issue if possible.
3. Contact a parent for a change of clothes.
4. Receive repeated dress code referrals for ongoing violations.

Dress Code Correction Process

Dress code concerns will always be handled with **discretion, kindness, and respect**. When possible, corrections will be made privately by a staff member of the same gender whenever appropriate, with every effort made to preserve the student's dignity and minimize embarrassment.

Students will never be publicly shamed, criticized, or disciplined in a manner that demeans their character or worth. Instead, staff members will calmly explain the concern, provide an opportunity for the student to correct the issue if possible, and partner with parents when additional support is needed.

If a clothing item or accessory does not meet dress code expectations and cannot be immediately corrected, parents may be contacted to bring an appropriate change of clothing. Repeated dress code concerns may result in additional conversations with the student and family to encourage consistency and reinforce school expectations.

Our commitment is that every dress code interaction reflects the love of Christ, demonstrating **grace, truth, and mutual respect** while maintaining the standards that help create a safe, orderly, and Christ-centered learning environment for all students.