

FFCHS PERSONAL APPEARANCE POLICIES

RATIONALE

In line with our school philosophy, the area of dress and neatness for young people is primarily a function of the home (parents). We take into account these factors regarding this area: (1) cultural, individual and family standards vary widely; (2) some families leave this area of education up to the school; (3) the community, including those with children in the school, views the dress of the staff and students as a representation of the school; (4) 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, Firm Foundation Christian High School must have a clear, stipulated, manageable 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) maintain modesty and professionalism, (2) avoid identifying some particular dress style as the only Christian one, and (3) encourage/teach students to respect authority and willingly submit to policies and higher authority regardless of whether the students personally agree with the policies or not.

All FFCHS students are to arrive at school in compliance to the Personal Appearance Policies and remain thus throughout the school day and/or while on school property, as well as at all on-campus and off-campus school-related activities and events.

PARENT NOTE

We depend on our parents to work with the school in maintaining these standards by being aware of what their child is wearing **before** he or she leaves for school. Please be sure your child is dressed and groomed properly.

Please refer to Additional Appearance Policies and Consequences on the following pages.

(If you are unsure about an item, you may contact administrator or guidance counselor to preview clothing items.)

HIGH SCHOOL ATTIRE

In an effort to create a respectful environment focused on learning, students must adhere to the following guidelines regarding high school attire:

- Denim jeans, Denim skirts/jumpers/dresses with sleeves, and denim walking length shorts (skirts/jumpers/dresses and shorts must be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee)
- Non-denim slacks, cords, cargo pants, and capris
- Non-denim skirts, and dresses with sleeves (no shorter than 2 inches above the knee)
- Non-denim walking length shorts (no shorter than 2 inches above the knee)
- Dress, casual, or clean athletic shoes
- Shirts and blouses, either plain or with appropriate logos/writing
- Sleeveless shirts are allowed if they are button up and/or have a collar. (Sleeveless shirts are not tank tops; they have more coverage in the shoulder.)
- Sweaters and zip-up sweatshirts with appropriate graphics, pictures, or other writing. (If you are unsure about an item, you may set up a meeting with the administrator to preview clothing items.)
- Hair must be of a natural color and neatly groomed. For males, hair should be no longer than the bottom of the shirt collar.
- Jewelry must be in good taste and moderate. (See EARRINGS/PIERCINGS for further clarification.)
- All logos, graphics, words/phrases or other writing must be appropriate for a Christian school environment, in other words, carry positive messages and be in line with Biblical standard

EARRINGS/PIERCINGS

- Earrings may not exceed 2 inches below the bottom of the ear lobe. One earring per ear for females and no earrings for males.
- Ear jewelry beyond the standard earrings are not allowed: plugs, gauges, claws, spikes, tusks, retainers, etc.
- No other jewelry in body piercings is allowed at school.

The administration reserves the right to determine appropriate clothing. Toward that end, these items are specifically not allowed at any time:

- Non-fitted pants that sag or are baggy
- Basketball shorts or "sports" shorts, track or sweat-style pants, yoga or exercise pants
- Clothing with holes, tears or frayed seams

- Dresses, skirts or slits (in skirts/dresses) shorter than two inches above the knee
- Sleeveless shirts or blouses without a collar or without buttons
- Tank tops or strapless attire
- Tight-fitting tops
- Tight-fitting pants (unless covered by a mid-thigh length, loose-fitting top)
- Jeggings
- Leggings worn as pants or leggings worn with short skirts (Leggings may only be worn with skirts or dresses of the appropriate listed length)
- Sheer skirts/dresses that are long in length with a solid skirt underneath that is more than two inches above the knee
- Sheer or revealing clothing such as clothing that exposes the midriff when a hand is raised
- Clothing that exposes cleavage (clothing must eliminate visible cleavage at all times, in any position, including times when leaning over or bending down)
- Undergarments cannot show out of or through clothing
- Shirts that do not cover the waistband of all pants and skirts
- Heels on shoes higher than 3½ inches
- Head coverings (scarves, bandanas, etc.)
- Visible tattoos (permanent or wash-off) or ink markings
- Accessories, logos, graphics, words/phrases or writing that contain racist remarks, suggestive language, profanity or subtle messages and/or drug/alcohol related activities, or sexual activities
- Spike necklaces, bracelets, belts, etc.
- Sunglasses, hats and caps inside the classroom or at special events/assemblies
- Students' hair that covers eyes or limits vision
- Certain graphics, including gargoyles, skulls, wizards, vampires, and other graphics of this nature

CHAPEL DAY ATTIRE

Chapel day is a special day at Firm Foundation Christian School and as such, attire for the day shall follow professional/professional casual standards.

- No jeans shall be worn
- Boys shall wear collared shirts
- Girls shall wear blouses or better (no plain T's)
- Skirts and dresses with sleeves and of the proper length are appropriate for chapel day
- Dress pants, slacks, or Dockers/khakis are appropriate for chapel day

PE DRESS CODE

All high school students are required to “dress down” for PE classes. The PE dress code is for physical education class only. Students must change back into appropriate attire as soon as PE is over (except for those students that have PE at the last period of the day). The following are the only approved PE options:

- **Black or Navy** only in: Shorts, Sweatpants and/or Track Pants (PE uniforms may be purchased through Land’s End, but it is not required)
- **Plain Navy or Gray crew neck** T-shirts (PE uniforms may be purchased through Land’s End, but it’s not required.) No scoop neck t-shirts are allowed
- **Tennis shoes** that are “non-marking”

FORMAL DRESS

Formal dresses should be modest and conform to the guidelines above. Dresses may be sleeveless but must have two shoulder straps (one for each shoulder). The backs of dresses must reach the shoulder blades and the front of dresses must have a non-revealing neckline.

DRESS CODE INFRACTIONS

If a high school student comes to school in attire not in compliance with the FFCHS Personal Appearance Guidelines:

First Infraction: Student is informed of inappropriate dress. Student may be asked to wear a school-provided shirt or clothing item, or parents may be called to bring appropriate clothing items to the school so the student can change. Parents may be communicated with regarding this infraction.

Second Infraction: Student is given detention. Administration will call the parents to discuss the matter. Student may be asked to wear a school-provided shirt or clothing item, or parents may be called to bring appropriate clothing items to the school so the student can change.

Third Infraction: A conference between administration and parents will be scheduled to discuss the situation. Student may be asked to wear a school-provided shirt or clothing item, or parents may be called to bring appropriate clothing items to the school so the student can change.

All clothing is subject to the approval of the administration. The school reserves the right to require that students whose dress is deemed inappropriate wear a school-provided shirt over their inappropriate clothing choices for the school day, and/or to require that students call home for a change of clothing.