



FAMILIES OF FAITH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

K-12th GRADE DRESS CODE

24466 W EAMES STREET, CHANNAHON, IL 60410
815.521.1381 | admin@fofca.com | www.fofca.com

Revision Policy

Families of Faith Christian Academy reserves the right to change any policy or procedure in the dress code at any time when, at the discretion of the staff and administration, it deems the change to be in the best interest of the school.

Rev. 07/08/2024

DRESS CODE

We want to help our students create a good self-image for themselves, which is vital to good Christian growth. To do this, we feel that we must encourage cleanliness and dress that is becoming of young ladies and gentlemen in accordance with the principles of modesty set forth in Scripture. Students should dress in a way that neither dishonors God nor draws inappropriate attention to themselves. The dress standards which follow are intended as expressions of these principles. At FOFCA, we believe that the way we are dressed is the first and simplest form of communication about ourselves. Therefore, we have a uniform for our lower school students (kindergarteners through grade 6) while they are developing and learning good dress habits. For our upper school students (grades 7-12), we have developed a dress code to which all upper school students must adhere and which we believe includes sufficient latitude for individual expression and taste.

One of the most difficult tasks for administration is the determination of modesty, which is often at odds with cultural fashion trends. Please, do not put administration in a difficult position. We do not want to cause any embarrassment by having to notify a student that their attire is inappropriate after they have arrived at school. Modesty is somewhat subject to interpretation, but upholding it is a responsibility we have as a Christian institution. Students have the responsibility to dress in accordance with the dress code as written and if they are not in compliance, acknowledge that there will be consequences assigned. Before students leave home each day, it is the parents' responsibility to see that their student is dressed properly for school according to the uniform (K-6) or dress code (7-12). If a student is out of uniform or dress code, they may be required to change before returning to class. For specific consequences following uniform or dress code violations, please see the Discipline and Consequences Chart in the full handbook. **At their discretion, the administration reserves the right to declare any portion of a student's outfit as unacceptable attire.**

Please note that the general guidelines and 7-12th grade dress code apply to parent/guardian volunteers who are on-campus during the school day.

2024–2025 GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. **Acceptable attire:**

- a. Pants: modest fit pants with no holes (unfinished hems are acceptable)
- b. Dresses/skirts/tunics: must be fingertip length at minimum; dresses, skirts, or tunics that are *above the knee* MUST have shorts or leggings beneath. If the dress/skirt comes to the middle of the thigh or longer, girls may wear tights instead of shorts or leggings.
- c. Shorts: modest fit shorts with no holes and that reach fingertip length AND/OR are of a 5" inseam (students whose shorts are of questionable length may be required to provide proof of the 5" inseam)
- d. Shirts: modest fit shirts
- e. Shoes: dress shoes, gym shoes, sandals, clogs, Crocs, or boots, must be clean and in good condition

2. **Unacceptable attire:**

- a. Bottoms: leggings (without a fingertip length dress, skirt, or t-shirt over), spandex, shorts which are not visible below the shirt
- b. Dresses/tops: spaghetti strap or strapless, immodest fit, see-through (anything which allows for undergarments to be seen), cleavage-revealing, crop tops which leave midriff exposed
- c. Shoes: slippers, any shoe with wheels in the sole, *slides are NOT acceptable for daily dress*
- d. Any article of clothing which is too tight or form-fitting—restricting movement or emphasizing bodily curves. Students should be able to pinch an inch of fabric on any article of clothing.
- e. Any article of clothing or accessory that displays obscene, sexually suggestive, vulgar, violent, or otherwise inappropriate slogans/insults
- f. Any article of clothing which is excessively baggy—oversized or inappropriately fitted, sags, or will not stay up
- g. Hats or headwear, including a raised hood
- h. Chains, spikes, or jewelry indicating gang affiliation or considered potentially harmful

3. **Appearance standards:**

- a. Hair should be clean, well-groomed, not extreme (as determined by administration, including, but not limited to: excessive length for boys,

mohawks, spikes, non-natural colors, etc.), and away from the eyes.

Compliance will be determined by the administration.

- b. High school boys may have facial hair. Boys' facial hair is to be neat and well-groomed at all times. No shaggy or unkempt appearance will be allowed. Compliance will be determined by the administration.
- c. Nail color (for boys), body mutilations, or body piercings (including any magnetic jewelry and gauges) other than ear piercings are not permitted.

K-6TH UNIFORM FOR DAILY DRESS

All uniform items must be purchased through Land's End, French Toast, Walmart, Old Navy, or Children's Place. School spirit wear must be purchased through the FOCCA spirit wear website.

New for 2024-2025: Spirit wear for elementary school students may only be worn on Fridays or with a dress down pass.

GIRLS UNIFORM FOR DAILY DRESS

Tops

Polos: heather gray, navy, or orange, short or long sleeve

Sweaters: must be completely plain, navy, white, orange, or heather gray, zip-up (with hoods acceptable), button down or cable knit (optional)

Dresses: navy, gray, or orange polo uniform dresses, fingertip length at a minimum—*if the dress is above the knee, girls must wear shorts or leggings underneath it, if it comes to the middle of the thigh or is longer, girls may wear tights instead of leggings or shorts.*

Bottoms: all bottoms must be navy blue

Pants: flat front or pleated pants

Shorts: walking or cargo shorts with 5" inseam minimum and/or fingertip length

Jumpers/skirts: jumpers, skirt, or skort (any style), fingertip length at a minimum— *if the dress is above the knee, girls must wear shorts or leggings underneath it, if it comes to the middle of the thigh or is longer, girls may wear tights instead of leggings or shorts.*

Socks/tights/leggings: black, gray, white, or navy

Shoes: white, black, navy, or brown dress shoe, gym shoe, loafers, boots, sandals, Crocs, or flats (sparkles are acceptable)

**Please note that uniform bottoms must NOT be legging-style or sweatshirt material.*

BOYS UNIFORM FOR DAILY DRESS

Tops

Polos: heather gray, navy, or orange, short or long sleeve

Cardigans: navy, orange, or heather gray, button down or cable knit (optional)

Bottoms: all bottoms must be navy blue

Pants: cargo, flat front, or pleated pants

Shorts: walking or cargo shorts with a 5" inseam minimum

Socks: black, gray, white, or navy

Shoes: white, black, navy, or brown dress shoe, gym shoe, loafers, boots, sandals, Crocs, or flats

Belts: *if worn, must match shoes*, may be black, navy, or brown (optional)

**Please note that uniform bottoms must NOT be sweatshirt material.*

UNIFORM COMPANIES

All daily dress uniforms must be purchased from French Toast, Walmart (uniform brand), Old Navy, Children's Place, or Lands' End.

Lands' End Uniforms www.landsend.com/school

French Toast www.FrenchToast.com

Wal-Mart www.walmart.com

Old Navy www.oldnavy.com

Children's Place www.childrensplace.com

French Toast uniforms can sometimes be purchased seasonally at K-Mart, Sears, and Meijer in our area.

7-12TH GRADE DAILY DRESS CODE

1. Daily dress acceptable attire:

- a. Pants: modest-fit denim, dress pants, cargo pants, chinos, or linen pants with no holes above the knee
- b. Dresses/skirts/tunics: must be fingertip length at minimum; dresses, skirts, or tunics (*please note that t-shirts are NOT considered tunics for the purposes of daily dress at school*) that are above the knee MUST have shorts or leggings. If the skirt/dress is mid-thigh length, girls may wear tights instead of shorts or leggings.
- c. Shorts: modest-fit denim, dress, cargo, chinos, golf shorts, or linen shorts with no holes, must be fingertip length and/or have a minimum 5" inseam
- d. Shirts: collared, button-down, blouses, sweaters, or t-shirts (sleeveless shirts are permitted if the straps are three fingers wide at a minimum)
- e. Shoes: dress shoes, gym shoes, sandals, Crocs, or boots

2. Daily dress unacceptable attire:

- a. Bottoms: leggings, sweatpants, spandex, mesh athletic-style shorts, etc.
- b. Dresses/tops: spaghetti strap or strapless, immodest fit, see-through, cleavage-revealing, crop tops which leave the midriff exposed
- c. Shoes: slippers, slides, any shoe with wheels in the sole
- d. Any article of clothing or accessory that displays obscene images, sexually suggestive, vulgar, violent, or otherwise inappropriate images or sayings
- e. Hats or headwear, including a raised hood
- f. Chains, spikes, or jewelry indicating gang affiliation or considered potentially harmful

MANDATORY DRESS GUIDELINES

FOR ALL STUDENTS K-12TH GRADE—CHAPEL, ATHLETIC, & SPECIAL EVENT DRESS CODE

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR MANDATORY DRESS

Mandatory dress gives our students the opportunity to style themselves in a business-like manner. All students from kindergarten through 12th grade may choose their own outfits within the following standards of dress. We use mandatory dress days for chapel services

and special occasions such as picture day, the Christmas play, science fair, and graduation.

BOYS MANDATORY DRESS CODE

Pants: Wrinkle-free dress pants, any color (black, navy, gray, brown, khaki, etc.)

Shirts: Wrinkle-free, collared button-down dress shirt or polo, any color. Shirts are to be tucked in with a belt if the pants have loops.

Socks: Dress socks may be black, brown, navy blue, or fun-patterned socks

Belts: *if worn, must match shoes*

Shoes: Dress shoe, dress boots, or stylish gym shoe in excellent condition (such as Converse or Vans) coordinated w/ outfit

Optional items: Ties—necktie or bow tie, any color, solid or patterned, matching suit jackets, blazers, or vests

GIRLS MANDATORY DRESS CODE

Pants: Wrinkle-free dress pants, any color (black, brown, navy, gray, brown, khaki, etc.)

Skirts/dresses: Must be fingertip length at minimum; dresses, skirts, or tunics that are *above the knee* MUST have shorts or leggings beneath. If the dress/skirt comes to the middle of the thigh or is longer, girls may wear tights instead of leggings or shorts. Dress straps must be a minimum of three fingers wide to be worn without a cover

Shirts: Blouses or sweaters, shirts must have a strap that is three fingers wide to be worn without a cover

Socks/tights/leggings: Dress socks or tights must coordinate with the outfit

Shoes: Dress flats, dress boots, dress sandals, heels, or stylish gym shoe in excellent condition (such as Converse or Vans) coordinated w/ outfit

Optional items: Blazers, jean jackets

MANDATORY DRESS UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE:

Everything considered unacceptable for daily dress is also unacceptable for mandatory dress.

Pants: No jeans of any color, shorts, or athleisure (leggings, sweatpants, etc.)

Shirts: Sweatshirts, t-shirts, hoodies, and outdoor jackets are not permitted (including spirit wear)

Shoes: Flip flops, jellies, Crocs, or slides

ATHLETIC DRESS

INTRAMURAL AND COMPETITIVE SPORTS PRACTICES, FIELD DAY

- a. T-shirts
- b. Modest tank tops (shoulders and undergarments covered)
- c. Athletic shorts that reach fingertip length AND/OR are of a 5" inseam (Spandex or biker shorts may be worn beneath athletic shorts but never alone)
- d. Sweatpants or joggers

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

GRADES 7-12 STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO DRESS IN PE UNIFORM DURING THEIR CLASS

- a. Spirit wear t-shirts
- b. Shorts provided by the school, \$20 fee and \$10 additional for any extra pairs desired
- c. Non-marking indoor shoes to be left at school

DRESS DOWN

GUIDELINES FOR ALL STUDENTS K-12TH

- a. All acceptable daily dress is permissible on dress down day
- b. Pants: Jeans, sweatpants, leggings (top MUST be fingertip length at a minimum), joggers, athletic shorts, (5" inseam and/or fingertip length minimum) **Please note: pajama pants are NOT part of dress down and may only be worn on specific pajama days**
- c. Tops: T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, zip-ups (follow general guidelines)
- d. Shoes: Gym shoes, flip flops, slides, Crocs, etc.

FORMAL EVENT ATTIRE

Formal event dress code guidelines must be followed by all attendees at events (current FOECA students and off-campus guests). 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. Attire should reflect a formal family occasion (like a wedding) rather than a night on the town or evening at a club