
SCHOOL OF RHETORIC

Dress Code for Students in Grades 9 through 12

At Covenant Christian Academy, we strive to set standards that promote excellence in academics, conduct and appearance. Our dress code is based on the principles of modesty, neatness, and appropriateness. We believe that physical appearance and self-image are closely related, and a dress code encourages good behavior. Appearance influences students' attitudes toward themselves, others, their school, and their responsibilities.

Introduction and General Information

Students are required to be in proper attire during school hours unless other attire has been approved. Students are required to arrive at school and to leave school in proper attire unless prior permission was obtained from the Dean of Students. Students not in proper attire will receive a written warning and may be removed from classes (or a school event) until they are able to meet the guidelines listed below. **Parents may be asked to bring an appropriate change of clothing to the School for their child.** Repeated violations will lead to a detention and additional consequences if necessary.

Professional Dress is required on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Chapel Attire Wednesdays and Special Events.

Spirit Wear may be worn on Fridays.

Professional Dress: Monday- Thursday

Girls

- A collared shirt or blouse (short or long sleeve), or dress cotton shirt must be worn.
- T-shirts, tank and racerback tank tops, spaghetti straps, strapless tops, and body suits are not permitted.
- Tops must cover undergarments completely (front and back), must not be too tight, must cover the midriff, and the neckline must not display cleavage.
- White or flesh colored undergarments must be worn under white or light colored shirts.
- Dress sweaters or blazers may be worn over a Professional Dress top.
- Pants, jeans or shorts are to be clean and neat, trimmed and without tears or holes and are to be worn pulled up to the waist. Shorts must be no more than 6" above the knee when standing.
- Skirts and dresses must be no more than 5" above the knee when standing. Tightly fitted, tube-style dresses are not permitted.
- Leggings may only be worn under a dress, shorts or skirt.
- Shoes: Casual shoes, sneakers, or comfortable dress shoes (heel height must be 2 inches or less) may be worn. Students may not wear open-toed sandals, beach sandals (flip flops), Crocs, work boots, moccasins, bedroom slippers or impractical styles.

Boys

- A collared shirt (short or long sleeve) must be worn. If a button up shirt is worn, the shirt needs to be buttoned up to the top 1-2 buttons. T-shirts and tank tops are not permitted.
- Dress sweaters and sport coats/blazers may be worn over a Professional Dress shirt.
- Pants, jeans or shorts are to be clean and neat, trimmed and without tears or holes and are to be worn pulled up to the waist. Shorts must be no more than 6" above the knee when standing.
- Shoes: Casual shoes, sneakers, or comfortable dress shoes may be worn. Students may not wear open-toed sandals, beach sandals (flip flops), Crocs, work boots, moccasins, bedroom slippers or impractical styles.

Chapel Attire: Wednesday and Special Events

Girls

- A dress, collared shirt or blouse (short or long sleeve) must be worn.
- Tops must cover undergarments completely (front and back), must not be too tight, must cover the midriff, and the neckline must not display cleavage.
- Dresses or blouses with shoulder straps less than 2" wide must be worn with a dress sweater or blazer.
- A dress, skirt, or dress slacks should be worn. Tightly fitted, tube-style dresses are not permitted.
- Skirts and dresses must be no more than 5" above the knee.
- Shoes should be dress shoes. No sneakers. Open-toed dress shoes are allowed with Chapel attire. Heel height must be 2 inches or less and no high heels in the PAAC. Flip flops and other casual footwear may not be worn.

Boys

- A collared shirt with a tie or bow tie must be worn.
- Shirts must be buttoned up and tucked in all day.
- Sport coats/blazers are optional, but at times may be required.
- Dress pants, khakis or slacks must be worn with a dress belt.
- Black or brown dress shoes must be worn. Sneakers, flip flops or other casual footwear may not be worn.

Spirit Wear (optional): Friday

- Students in grades 9 through 12 may participate in Spirit Wear Fridays by wearing any official CCA Spirit wear. Students that do not wish to participate in Spirit Wear on Fridays should default to the Professional Dress code.
- Students may wear T-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, etc. from a CCA sports team, House, club, class, musical group, theatre production, CODA trip, etc.
- Pants, jeans or shorts are to be clean and neat, trimmed and without tears or holes and are to be worn pulled up to the waist.
- No leisure, lounge, sports, or exercise clothing (leggings, warm-ups, athletics shorts, etc.) are to be worn.
- Any CCA jacket or sweatshirt may be worn as outerwear, but the shirt underneath must meet the shirt requirements of Spirit Wear or Professional Dress.
- Shoes: Casual shoes, sneakers, or comfortable dress shoes may be worn. Students may not wear open-toed sandals, beach sandals (flip flops), Crocs, work boots, moccasins, bedroom slippers or impractical styles.
- Approved "Dress Down" days default to Spirit Wear guidelines with exceptions being named i.e. pajama day, color day, etc.

Additional Dress Code Guidelines

- **CCA Hooded Sweatshirts and Crewnecks** may only be worn on Fridays with Spirit Wear.
- **Outerwear:** 1/4 zips with a CCA Cougars logo may be worn over Professional Dress tops. Non-CCA fleece jackets (1/4 zip or full zip) may also be worn over a Professional Dress top during colder months.
- **Jean Style Pants** (defined as denim, stretch denim, back pockets sewn on the exterior of the pant, or rivets visible), black jeans, joggers, cargo pants and shorts do not meet the expectation of "dress pants or slacks" for chapel attire.
- **Undershirts** should not have logos that are visible underneath Dress Code shirts.
- **Clothing should not contain visible large branding or art.** A small logo is permitted.
- **Hats and bandanas** may not be worn inside the school building.
- **Hair** should not be unnaturally colored, including streaks of color or unnaturally colored highlights.
- **Facial Hair** is to be well-trimmed and neat.
- **Body Embellishments** such as gauges and facial piercings (other than traditional ear piercings) are prohibited.
- **Inappropriate or offensive statements, signs, or symbols** are not permitted on any clothing, backpacks, notebooks or related items.
- **Bathing Suits:** At a CCA sponsored event where swimsuits are allowed, girls are required to wear one-piece bathing suits or tankini's and boys may not wear "Speedo style" bathing suits.

Prom and Dance Attire - Grade 9 - 12

- Dresses must not show cleavage, midriff, or have slits in the hem higher than 6" above the knee.
- Dresses must be no more than 6" above the knee if wearing a short dress.
- Tightly fitted, tube-style dresses are not permitted.
- Boys must wear a suit or tuxedo.
- All guidelines also apply to the dates of CCA students.
- If there is a question as to the appropriateness of the dress, bring the dress in or email a picture to show a teacher. Don't risk being asked to leave a CCA dance.

Note to Parents

CCA appreciates parents partnering with us in the dress code. Students are expected to comply with the dress code and parents are expected to monitor compliance before their children leave home. While we are not interested in being the "clothes police," it is extremely important that we have consistency in our dress code to help contribute to a positive educational environment. Thank you for your help and cooperation.