

QUICK CHECK!!
Changes for 2009 - 2010
are underlined!



SECONDARY DRESS CODE

GRADES 6 -12
2009-2010



LAKELAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 1111 FOREST PARK ST. LAKELAND, FL 33803 PH: 863.688.2771 WWW.ICSONLINE.ORG

INTRODUCTION

Dress Code is frequently a point of contention, frustration, and distraction in Christian schools for students, parents, and faculty. This should not be the case. We hope the following guidelines will help you understand and commit to the overall attitude we desire.

The Scriptures only touch on the issue of dress through principles. A Christian school dress code can be dealt with on a "spiritual" basis only as it relates to biblical principles. The underlying principles are not usually the source of contention. They are more frequently related to institutional preferences, which the school chooses. Two different Christian schools that are equally committed to the Scriptures may have different dress guidelines for their faculty and students, just as churches and families have varying perspectives. Each school necessarily establishes boundaries that conform to its mission.

The principles found in 1 Timothy 2:9-10, 4:12, and Titus 2:6-8 teach:

Appropriateness

"in harmony with the situation,"

Modesty

"moral sensibility within the bounds of propriety."

Humility

not "proud or self-assertive."

In addition, neatness, respect and gender distinction are basic to the code.

DRESS CODE FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Skirts: *Skirts worn with a uniform shirt are to be no shorter than the top of the knee.* Slits above the top of the knee are not permitted. *On special occasions, when a dress is permitted, the dress must meet the length requirements.*

Dress slacks, including Capri and flood pants, are acceptable. Cords are permitted. Capri, flood pants, and slacks are to be full-cut, not form-fitting. The hem should be neat and not frayed or cut-off. They should be loose enough to be able to gather one inch of material at both the inside and outside seam of each leg. The seams of the undergarments should not be visible through the material. No jeans, jeans style or denim pants regardless of color, stonewashed, blue cotton/denim pants, bib-overalls, warm-up pants, sweat pants, athletic pants, leather, pleather, stretch pants, leggings, spandex, lycra, tight or baggy styles.

Shorts are NOT permitted. This includes any pants/capris that do not extend two inches below the knee.

Uniform shirts which display the school logo are required. Shirts must be purchased through Madden Corporate Services. A link to the LCS Apparel Store website is available at www.lcsonline.org. Shirts must have a collar. Although tops may be untucked, they must be long enough so that no skin shows when the arms are raised above the head. Only the top button may be unbuttoned on shirts. Uniform sweatshirts may also be worn but only over a uniform shirt. Official LCS team or group polo style shirts and sweatshirts which display a school logo and have been purchased through the school may also be worn. Shirts may not be altered. Layered garments may not be worn over uniform shirts or extend below uniform shirttail. Undershirts must be tucked in.

Shoes: any style of shoe is acceptable including flip-flops and sandals. Shoes with wheels are not acceptable.

Hairstyles should not be distracting. No extreme styles. Hair must be kept neat. The administration reserves the right to deem any hairstyle as a violation due to style or color.

DRESS CODE FOR YOUNG MEN

Long pants must be neat, dressy, and a solid color. All pants must be worn at the waist. Cords and cargo pants are acceptable. No jeans, jeans style or denim pants regardless of color, stonewashed, blue cotton/denim pants, bib-overalls, sweat pants, warm-up suits, or athletic pants.

Shorts must be of twill material. *They must be solid, pin-striped, or plaid in design.* Worn at the waist, the shorts must come to within two inches of the knee. The hem should be neat and not frayed or cut-off.

Uniform shirts which display the school logo are required. Shirts must be purchased through Madden Corporate Services. A link to the LCS Apparel Store website is available at www.lcsonline.org. Shirts may not be altered. All shirts must have a collar and be tucked in. Only the top button may be unbuttoned on shirts. Uniform sweatshirts may also be worn but only over a uniform shirt. Official LCS team or group polo style shirts and sweatshirts which display a school logo and have been purchased through the school may also be worn.

Hair may be highlighted or colored with a natural hair color only. Hair must be neatly combed and out of the eyes. When combed straight down, it may not extend below the top edge of a shirt collar, the middle of the ear, or the bridge of the nose. The measurement of hair will be determined when the hair is combed straight down—not by the hair style. Sideburns may not extend beyond the bottom of the ear. Designs shaved into hair or spiked hair is not permitted. Young men must be clean-shaven.

The administration is the final judge of appropriate hair styles. Violations may result in suspension until the hair is in compliance with code.

Shoes: Dress/casual shoes with a leather upper or athletic shoes are acceptable. They must be properly laced. Crocs, sandals, slippers or shoes with wheels are not acceptable.

YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN

Only uniform sweatshirts may be worn. This includes *any sweatshirt made of fleece or sweatshirt material whether it is lined, hooded, or zippered.* Full length sweaters may be worn, but only over a dress code shirt.

Lettered or imprinted clothing: No clothing depicting rock music groups, alcohol, or other inappropriate messages; no camouflage clothing (except for jackets).

No excessive **jewelry, chains, make-up, or hair styles** that the school deems distracting to the atmosphere or mission of LCS. No **visible tattoos** (permanent or temporary) or **visible body piercing jewelry** (except for girls' earrings). **No hats or bandanas. Anything worn under an LCS uniform shirt must be solid color and tucked in at all times.**

YOUNG MEN & WOMEN (CONT.)

Jeans Day: Jeans must be appropriate. No holes, rips, shredding, frayed edges, or the appearance of these things are permitted. No excessively tight or baggy jeans are permitted. Jean shorts are not allowed on jeans day.

Formal Wear

With changes in style it becomes necessary for LCS to draft a dress code for formal events. Young men are to wear a dress coat, dress slacks, and a tie to these events. Young ladies are expected to wear formal dresses that are modest. Some simple guidelines are necessary. There is to be no bare or sheer midriff areas; backs of dresses should be no lower than the middle of the back; and modest fronts should not expose cleavage.

If there is a question about appropriateness, check with the administration at least one week prior to the event. Students who do not meet appropriate dress will not be permitted to attend. This code also applies to non-LCS students who attend as guests.

Extracurricular Activities

Students remaining after school for various activities are required to be in modest, suitable attire. Students may not wear shorts with less than a four inch in-seam to any school activity. Shorts with slit sides are not allowed. No clothing which exposes the midriff is allowed. Boys are to wear shirts at all times on campus. No visible tattoos or body piercing jewelry (except for girls' earrings) is permitted.

ENFORCEMENT

Students who are out of dress code will be removed from class until the violation is corrected. Students are responsible for any work missed in class.

In addition to correcting the dress code violation, the student will receive the following disciplinary actions:

- * First offense: notification of parents

- * Second offense and each offence thereafter:

 - After-school detention

Final authority to decide appropriateness of an outfit worn on campus and at all LCS activities rests with the administration.

NOTE TO THE PARENTS

Parents are encouraged to teach their children to live happily and submissively within the code's guidelines. Nitpicking criticism, to which any set of rules is susceptible, creates a spirit of unrest in children. We want to prevent the dress code from becoming a **major** issue at LCS. Even though we readily acknowledge that much of the dress code is mere institutional preference, it is not optional. Students are expected to comply with the code, and parents are expected to monitor compliance before their children leave home. We are not here to be "clothes police." It is inappropriate that complying students, teachers, or principals be distracted from the educational process due to someone's failing in his or her commitment to follow the code.