



Dress Code

VCA Vision Statement: *We exist, in partnership with families, to provide a nurturing and challenging educational experience in a Christ-centered community, where students are renewed in the image of their Creator and are equipped to live out their God-given purpose for His glory and the good of others.*

The VCA dress code is designed to support our vision and serve these general purposes:

1. Train students to dress appropriately for the task at hand (learning, physical exercise and competition, visual/musical performance)
2. Train students to recognize that the way we dress, while seemingly an individual expression/decision, does impact the community around us. Christ teaches us to be aware of our impact upon others and that includes how we dress.
3. Free teachers up to focus on teaching, less on minute details about dress code.

****Parents play a crucial role in supporting this policy- please go over this with your student carefully and discuss it. If you have any concerns or questions, please meet with a VCA staff member to discuss. If buying it/wearing it gives you pause, it probably is not appropriate for school.***

***Enrollment at VCA assumes compliance with this dress code policy:**

Accessories

- **Hats:** None in classrooms or chapel, ok outside
- **Piercings:** parental discretion, keep safety in mind. If coach/p.e. teacher/ref asks you to remove or a sport requires it, please do so respectfully.

Tops/Dresses

- **General:** The focus is on modesty, consideration of others and comfort to facilitate focus on learning. No clothing should be skin-tight/form-fitting. ****Clothing should comply with dress code regardless of position- raised arms, sitting, bending forward, etc.****
- **Shirts:** Midsection and undergarments **completely covered at all times**, modest necklines (no cleavage), loose-fitting, underarm hair not visible, no spaghetti straps. **If shirt is sheer, then the shirt underneath must comply with dress code.*
- **Logos/Illustrations:** Keep community/VCA vision in mind- *profanity, illustrations or depictions of/relating to/promoting illegal/sinful activities, etc. should not be worn.*
- **Dresses:** Must be loose fit, **mid-thigh length or longer regardless of position (sitting, leaning over)** May wear leggings but dresses must still be mid-thigh or longer.

Pants/Shorts/Skirts

- **General:** undergarments should not be visible in any position, no tight/form-fitting pants.
- **Holes:** there must be fabric behind any holes above the knee (no skin showing above the knee) **please note, this is different from the shorts/skirts length below.*
- **Shorts/Skirts:** loose fitting, length should be mid-thigh or longer *in all positions (sitting, leaning over)* **Parents, check skirts with your daughters to make sure they are modest during activity/sitting down and standing up, etc. Wear bike shorts underneath for playing/climbing on play structure.*
- **No pajamas/PJ pants** unless it is a spirit day/pancake and PJ day
- **Leggings/other skin-tight pants not allowed unless worn with dresses that reach mid-thigh or longer.**

Shoes

- **P.E./Sports:** tennis/athletic shoes must be worn to participate in physical education and sports for safety.
- **General:** all shoes **must** have either a strap around the back of the heel or a full, enclosed heel. No flip flops. This is in order to comply with our insurance.

After School Hours/Sports/Special Events

- **Above dress code ALWAYS applies** unless a specific school communication is sent out. Please assume dress code any time you are at a school event, *even if it is off-campus.*
- **Sports practices/games** are included in our dress code. If a uniform requires an item of clothing that is out of our normal dress code (ex: volleyball shorts), the athletic director will determine the exact item to be worn, and students may not participate in games if they are not wearing that item as instructed by the A.D., including if they make adjustments in length or fit outside of parameters set by A.D.
- **Formal Events** will sometimes allow for dress code adjustments but we will communicate those *in advance* if they are different and the same general principles for modesty and consideration apply. **Parents, please partner with us and help students honor the dress code as they shop for these events. We will expect students to change if they arrive at a formal event out of dress code.*

- **Process/Consequences for students out of dress code:**

- **At school-** student will be asked to change, a parent will be called to bring something from home if student does not have something at school to change into. A note will be sent home to parent and documented in FACTS.
- **After hours event-** student will be asked to change or leave event if they are unable to change. *We truly do not want to ask a student to leave an event, so please honor the dress code.*
- If a student receives multiple FACTS entries regarding dress code infractions, a meeting will be scheduled with the student, parents and principal to discuss dress code together. ¹

¹ Updated 8/2022