

The “Why” of Having Standards of Dress

ALCS has established standards of dress in both elementary and middle school to promote a scriptural standard of modesty and foster attitudes that are conducive to learning. Wearing certain clothes does not determine our level of spirituality, but does show others our self-discipline, respect for others, commitment to excellence and submission to authority.

The following standards have been written to provide a common framework that we can all work within. It may seem silly to impose a standard appropriate for a middle school student on a kindergartener, yet, to be consistent and fair, we ask that everyone in both elementary and middle school observe these standards.

Points for Parents to Remember:

- Students may be asked to change their clothes at school to follow the school standards of dress
- Parents may be called to bring in a change of clothes to follow the school standards of dress
- Parents and students must confirm and follow standards of dress communicated for a field trip (casual, athletic, or chapel dress).
- Repeated offenses may be treated with disciplinary consequences.
- If a student is unable to follow the school standards of dress due to extenuating circumstances, please contact an administrator.

** Please note that administration has the final say on questions concerning standards of dress.

Clothing	Notes
GENERAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All clothing must be appropriately sized • All clothing must be modest • Clothing must be clean and free of holes, tears, frays, bleach marks • Any change of clothing kept at school must be within the standards of dress
Tops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All shirts/blouses/dresses must have sleeves • Tops cannot show undergarments or come off the shoulder (“cold shoulder”) • Necklines of tops (girls and boys)/dresses must not come below the base of the collar bone • Any top considered sheer must have a solid t-shirt (no words or pictures) or tank top of the same color underneath. • During cold weather months, sweaters and sweatshirts are allowed. Outdoor coats and fleece jackets may not be worn inside • Shirts meeting the standards of dress must be worn under sweaters and sweatshirts
Bottoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pants, skirts, shorts, capris must sit at the natural waist (no hip-huggers or low-riders) • Dresses, shorts (girls and boys) or skirts must be to the top of the knee while standing • Spandex, form-fitting, pajama-style, harem, athletic, sweatpants are not allowed

Bottoms (con't.)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leggings may ONLY be worn if under a dress code length skirt or dress in grades 4-8. Students in grades K-3 may wear leggings sized appropriately • Playground activity requires that bike shorts be worn under skirts and dresses in grades K-5 • Elementary students may wear gym shorts and athletic pants, but not sweatpants. Middle school students may wear cargo or Bermuda-style shorts daily, and may wear gym shorts on gym day
Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoes must be worn and tied at all times • Boots or shoes with deep treads are not allowed as “all-day” shoes • Socks, tights or nylons must be worn at all times • Platform shoes, clogs, jelly shoes and sandals may not be worn without appropriate stockings. • Heels must not exceed a height of 1” • Flip flops are not allowed in any grade • Sandals must have heel straps in middle school; sandals are not allowed in grades K-5 • Closed toe sneakers and socks must be worn for PE
Jewelry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not be inappropriate, excessive or distracting • No body piercings or tattoos (temporary or permanent) • Girls may wear pierced earrings
Girls’ Make-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makeup may be worn in grades 7 and 8 only • Must appear natural, modest and not in excess • Makeup and false nails are not acceptable for elementary students
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean, neat and conventional styles (no tails, mohawks, etc.) • Natural hair colors
Head Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hats or head coverings of any kind may not be worn in the building • Sweatshirts with hoods may be worn, but the hood may not be worn in the building
Middle School Chapel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys must wear button down, collared shirts (a white t-shirt without pictures or words must be worn under white shirts), dress pants, a tie and a belt. • Clean, neat shoes • Girls must wear button down blouses (a white tank top or camisole must be worn under white blouses; there must be a tank top or t-shirt without words or pictures under any top considered thin or sheer, and must be the same color as the top) and skirts or dresses. • Clean, neat shoes not exceeding 1” in height and with appropriate stockings