

Dress Code

The purpose of the uniform dress code is to clarify a standard of appearance that reflects biblical principles of modesty, appropriateness, gender distinctiveness, and stewardship which will encourage students to bring glory to God (1 Corinthians 10:31). There are several other important reasons why a uniform is required at Heritage Christian School:

1. To dispense with competition due to outward appearance and affluence.
2. To de-emphasize outward appearance and stress, in its place, the need for inner beauty and character development.
3. To limit the distractions and focus on learning.
4. To enhance school spirit.
5. To allow students to demonstrate a submission to authorities placed over them.

Popular culture mandates that we bow to fashion. It insists that we keep up with rapidly changing trends. At Heritage Christian School, we are training students to think differently about dress. By wearing a simple uniform, students step out of popular culture and into a world of serious learning. With limited outward distinctions, students identify with the student body and respect one another for who they are in Christ.

The cooperation of the student and the parent is necessary in maintaining the standards of the uniform dress code. Adherence to the Uniform Dress Code is a family responsibility. Dress code violations will be recorded. Repeated violations will result in disciplinary action. Parents shall assume this important responsibility and leave the school free to focus on its primary goal – building Godly character and academic competence.

General Guidelines

No brand name (unless board approved) is to appear anywhere on any article of uniform clothing. As all uniforms look alike, parents are strongly encouraged to mark all items with your child's name.

Fit is important for comfort as well as modesty (not too loose/baggy or tight/clingy).

Young students (Pre K – 2nd grade) are allowed to wear pants/shorts with fully elasticized waistbands that have no belt loops.

Belts must always be worn with separates that have belt loops.

Shirts may be worn tucked in or the shirt may be left out if it is not oversized and does not hang past the student's wrist/palm area. Shirts should always be worn with the collars down.

Footwear should complement the uniform, in school or neutral colors in good condition. Students may not wear shoes without a back strap. Flip-flops/ slides and/or beach/pool style shoes are not acceptable uniform footwear. Heels are limited to max height of 2 inches. **Elementary students will wear socks neutral in color or pattern with both being of the same color, pair and size with their shoes every day.**

Heely's and other wheeled-type shoes are not permitted.

Colors: Pants/shorts/skirts/skorts: Dark Navy, Dark or Putty Khaki (not light or Stone), Blackwatch plaid #79 or the classic navy/evergreen plaid from Land's End
Separates: Dark Navy, Burgundy, White, Hunter Green

Retailers: Lands' End, Class Act, Walmart

Other potentials: JC Penny's, Kohl's, Sears.....Please insure color/styles are acceptable.

Boys

Pants and Shorts: Pants may be front pleats or flat-front with straight legs. Only uniform cargo shorts from Land's End or Dickie cargo shorts available through Wal-Mart may be worn. Short length must not be below the kneecap. Front pockets should be traditional style or front pocket tab, with no accessory zippers, flaps, Velcro. Any back pockets should be slash-style with button.

Shirts:

Acceptable shirts: Plain collar white, dark navy, dark burgundy, or dark hunter green mesh or interlock polo shirts (short or long-sleeved), turtlenecks, or mock-turtlenecks with no decorative additions other than the HCS logo, plain collar white short or long-sleeved oxford cloth button-down shirts with no decorative additions other than HCS logo. Any undershirt that is worn underneath a uniform shirt must be school colors (white, dark navy, burgundy, hunter green) and must be tucked in. Land's End can embroider the HCS logo on any of the above-mentioned shirts for a small additional cost.

Sweatshirts, Sweaters and Jackets: V-neck drifter sweater vests or cardigan sweaters in dark burgundy, dark navy, or dark hunter green may be worn. Cable knit is not acceptable. These are available from Land's End only. HCS Sweatshirts and Hoodies must be worn with a tucked uniform separate underneath. HCS sweatshirts are available through Land's End only. HCS Hoodies are available through the school sports department only. A plain zip-up jacket or polar fleece in solid uniform colors is the only jacket allowed in the classroom and must be worn with a tucked uniform separate underneath.

Belts: Belts of neutral color (black, brown, khaki, or navy blue) are required and must be fully visible unless a sweatshirt, hoodie, or polar fleece zip-up is being worn. Pants and shorts must be worn at waistline and not pushed down around the hip area.

Accessories: Dark navy, dark burgundy, and hunter green ties.

Girls

Pants and Shorts: Front pleats or flat-front with straight legs, they may be cuffed, walking style. Shorts should be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee. Short length must not be below the kneecap. Front pockets should be traditional style or front pocket tab, with no accessory zippers, flaps, Velcro. Any back pockets should be slash-style with button.

Skirts, and Skorts: A-Line or pleated styles are only allowed as uniform separates as long as they meet proper length requirement of no more than 2 inches above the knee. No cargo-style or accessory buckles/zippers across the front of the skirt/skort allowed. Heritage plaid skorts or kilts are available through Land's End.

Jumpers: Available through Land's End only. Heritage plaid jumpers are available through Land's End.

Capri's: Dark Khaki capri's are available only Land's End.

Shirts:

Acceptable shirts: Plain collar white, dark navy, dark burgundy, or dark hunter green mesh or interlock polo shirts (short or long-sleeved), turtlenecks, or mock-turtlenecks with no decorative additions other than the HCS logo. Plain collar white short or long-sleeved oxford cloth button-down shirts with no decorative additions other than HCS logo. Long or short-sleeved solid white Peter Pan blouse. Any undershirt that is worn underneath a uniform shirt must be school colors (white, dark navy, burgundy, hunter green) and must be tucked in. Lands End can embroider the HCS logo on any of the above-mentioned shirts for a small additional cost.

Sweatshirts, Sweaters and Jackets: V-neck drifter sweater vests or cardigan sweaters in dark burgundy, dark navy, or dark hunter green may be worn. Cable knit is not acceptable. These are available from Land's End only. HCS Sweatshirts and Hoodies must be worn with a tucked uniform separate underneath. HCS sweatshirts are available through Land's End only. HCS Hoodies are available through the school sports department only. A plain zip-up jacket or navy blue polar fleece in solid uniform colors is the only jacket allowed in the classroom and must be worn with a tucked uniform separate underneath.

Belts: Belts of neutral color (black, brown, khaki, or navy blue) are required and must be fully visible unless a sweatshirt, hoodie or polar fleece zip-up is being worn. Pants and shorts must be worn at waistline and not pushed down around the hip area.

Accessories: Girls socks must be neutral in color or pattern with both being of the same color, pair and size. Girls leggings that are plain and of neutral color may be worn. Heritage plaid cross ties and other matching Heritage plaid accessories, **all other accessories (hair ties, earrings, etc.) must be of neutral or uniform color.**

Formal Dress: Modesty is a priority. Dresses should not display cleavage or a bare back. Students may not wear dresses without straps or halter tops without a jacket or attached shawl. Students must have at least a 2 inch strap if a jacket or cover-up is not worn. Dresses must reach the knee in length. Dresses must be approved by administration at least a week in advance of the event (including dresses of students who do not attend HCS). Tickets to the event will not be given to students until the dress has been checked.

Sports Sweatshirts

Individual team sports may design and sell HCS sweatshirts (approved by administration or uniform committee). These can be worn by fans and students. Students are allowed to wear the HCS sports hoodie to school as they would the HCS uniform hoodie.

Body Alteration

No piercings other than established policy pertaining to girls earrings. Boys may not wear ear rings of any kind. Expansion/gauging devices for ear lobe, nasal or other are not permitted. Cuttings are prohibited. Utilization of ink on student's skin is prohibited to include pens/markers and both formal and informal tattoos. (Students who have obtained such prior to attendance at HCS must keep them covered and agree to obtain no others during years of attendance).

Extra Curricular Dress Code

Students participating in or attending an HCS event must abide by the following dress code when not in uniform. The extra-curricular dress code is as follows:

1. Spaghetti strap, backless, and short shirts as well as short shorts are not permitted. Clothing should be modest, not revealing.
2. Clothing which is vulgar or may be interpreted as evil or offensive may not be worn. No skeletons, skulls, chains, or items associated with witch craft may be worn.
3. Girls in grades seven and up may wear conservative make-up (light colors, lightly applied.)
4. The administrator or an appointee will make final decisions on questionable attire.
5. Girls who participate in sports will be given a practice uniform that must be worn at practices. Girls shorts may not be more than 2 inches above the knee and only high cut athletic tank tops are to be worn at school. Girls may **not** have cut outs on their shirts that expose their sport bras.

Hairstyles, Make-up and Jewelry

1. Boys' hair should be neat, trimmed and off the ears, eyebrows and collar. If curly and does not lie flat, it must be cut within one inch of the contour of the head. The cut must be a standard conservative boy cut.
2. All students must have sideburns neatly trimmed, and they can be no longer than the bottom of the ear opening. Facial hair, including moustaches and beards, are not permitted. Mohawks or other similar styles are not permitted.
3. Girls may wear no more than two sets of pierced earrings; no other pierced jewelry may be worn by any student. Boys may not wear earrings.
4. Jewelry should not contain non-Christian symbols (determined by the teachers/principal).
5. Haircuts with designs cut into them and unnatural hair colors are not permitted.
6. Girls in grades seven and up may wear conservative make-up (light colors, lightly applied.)
7. Nail polish must be in good taste and appropriate for school. No black or navy blue nail polish should be worn.

Appropriate personal hygiene is expected of all students.