



## **Schaumburg Christian School**

### ***Appearance Guidelines***

Schaumburg Christian School strives to maintain a positive and professional learning environment, and one which reflects God's call to modesty and purity. Consequently, our appearance should encourage concentrated study and should in no way distract from the learning process. Therefore, our appearance guidelines are defined by two specific standards: modesty and professionalism.

#### **Modesty Guidelines – This section applies to all school functions.**

First and foremost, a student's appearance should reflect his/her identity as a follower of Christ. Everything we do is an expression of our relationship with God, and in His Word, God makes it clear that we are to be modest and treat our bodies with respect. Students' appearance should also reflect the Christian value of encouraging the focus on the inner self, not the outer. Therefore, we have some basic guidelines that we expect students will meet in accordance with these biblical standards. The standards of modesty should be reflected in a student's dress during school and during any school activity.

- The general guideline for the length of skirts and dresses requires that they touch the knee for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders and no shorter than 2" above the knee for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Pants should not be constructed in an overall style that is too tight or body shape revealing, therefore leggings, jeggings, and yoga pants are not acceptable during school or any school activity.
- Clothing should completely cover undergarments at all times (this would include while sitting or bending over). Girls should take care to ensure tops are not low cut, plunging or revealing at the neckline. Boys and girls both should take care to wear modest clothing styles that consistently cover their midsections while standing in a normal posture. Boys should ensure that their pants cover boxers and undergarments at all times.
- Tank tops for either girls or boys are not acceptable.
- Shorts used during activity times or athletics should come to within three inches of the knee.

#### **Professional Guidelines – This section applies to school day attire.**

We want students to be comfortable, but we also expect that a Schaumburg Christian School student's appearance should meet basic standards. As a learning community committed to excellence, we desire to wear clothes that are appropriate and create this type of learning environment. It is important to note that these standards do not involve morality; rather they are preferences that Schaumburg Christian School seeks to uphold in our school community. This is also in place to prepare our students for their future when they may have various appearance guidelines at their places of employment or other venues. The following are the professional dress requirements during the school day:

- Denim blue jeans, shorts, sweatpants, and warm-up pants are not acceptable as school dress.
- All clothing should be clean and in good repair. Clothing with holes, patches, or ragged/frayed ends may not be worn. This includes clothes that are designed with frayed/ragged ends or holes.
- Boys must wear collared shirts except when wearing crew neck or turtleneck sweaters. Boys' shirts are not to be sleeveless.

- Designs or slogans which do not meet the professional standards of Schaumburg Christian School are inappropriate regardless of whether they are on clothing or personal belongings. (Clothing, decoration on clothing or personal items, which promote musicians or musical events, should not be worn at school. We do not care to debate or interpret what is Christian, Quasi-Christian or anti-Christian music or musicians.)
- Hair should look neat and natural. Any hairstyle, hair color, or head appearance, which includes but is not limited to unnatural coloring, Mohawks, or designs shaved into heads, that tends to call undue attention is not acceptable. Hair should always be out of the eyes, regardless of how it is kept or worn, neatly trimmed, not excessive in length, and well-groomed at all times. Boys' hair should be cut so that it is off the collar. Boys' hair should not be manipulated to comply with the length requirements (by chemical products, rubber bands, barrettes, headbands, etc.). Boys must be clean-shaven.
- Any clothing or personal appearance that tends to call undue attention to the individual is not acceptable.
- Boys may not wear earrings to school. Tattoos or "body art" are not appropriate if visible. Piercings (including nose, lip, eyebrow, and anything other than earrings for girls) are not appropriate. Students who have such piercings will be required to remove their earring before they arrive at school or put in an invisible spacer during the school day. The ear must maintain its natural look.
- Boys should not wear open-toed shoes to school (i.e. shower/beach shoes, flip-flops, sport sandals).

If a student or parent has a question of whether a specific garment or style is appropriate, the time to check is before wearing it. Appearance standards related to modesty always apply when students are on campus or at any school activity, unless otherwise specified.

Since students purchase their clothing and personal belongings as a part of the family unit, and prepare for school at home, it is Schaumburg Christian School's desire to partner with parents to give proper guidance on clothing choices. We would much prefer appropriate clothing and appearance decisions be handled at home to ensure compliance with Schaumburg Christian School's standards.

Each student will be held responsible for his/her appearance. Instances of deviation from established students will be handled on an individual basis. Parents' support for the natural process of consequential decisions by students is greatly appreciated and helpful in the maturation process.

If a student is found to be out of dress code, he/she will be required to correct the situation by changing clothes. Students will be allowed one warning for a dress code violation. Additional instances will result in demerits.