



# 2023-24 Appearance Code

Grades JK - 12

*Text in red notes changes for the 2023-24 school year.*

## **APPEARANCE CODE (GRADES JK-12)**

Charlotte Christian School believes an appearance code is an opportunity to teach students about discipline and responsibility within a community. Part of that discipline is helping our students understand standards for everyone and the need for conformity. Charlotte Christian students are required to dress modestly and neatly, as is appropriate for the particular occasion, and in a manner that is not distracting to the learning environment or that draws undue attention to them. Recognizing that there is no “perfect” appearance code, the following code is set forth but to establish community standards based on the following guiding principles and change be changed at the discretion of the administration.

### **Guiding Principles:**

- A. Modesty and moderation (1 Timothy 2:9)  
Modest, non-extreme dress is an outward sign of self-control.
- B. Neatness and cleanliness (Matthew 25:21)  
We are to take care of the possessions the Lord has given us and we are to honor God with our bodies.
- C. Community and conformity (1 Corinthians 10:31-33)  
There are appropriate clothes for other places that should not be worn at school.

**These standards have been chosen out of a desire to provide for a positive learning environment and for consistency of enforcement.**

## **LOWER SCHOOL GUIDELINES**

### **Clothing**

1. Clothing must be clean and in good repair. Clothing with holes (intended or not) and/or patches are not permitted.
2. Girls in grades JK-5 may wear dresses and skirts. All dresses, skirts or shorts must be mid-thigh or longer. Please be sure shorts are always worn under dresses and skirts. Girls' shirts must have straps measuring two inches. No strapless tops, shirts with spaghetti straps, halter tops, crop tops, workout/yoga tank tops or tube tops may be worn.
3. *Students are permitted to wear collared shirts, T-shirts or sweatshirts any day of the week that align with the school's guiding principles listed above.*
4. Students in grades JK-5 may wear athletic shorts mid-thigh or longer.
5. Jeans, khaki-type slacks, dress pants and capris are permitted. Leggings, jeggings and yoga pants may be worn by girls if they provide appropriate coverage.
6. No lounge, pajama wear or uniforms/jerseys unless permitted for costume days.
7. *On special occasions (Field Day, Whitewater Center) students are allowed to wear bathing suits. Boys must wear a T-shirt with their swimsuit. Girls must either wear a one-piece or a tankini with no midriff exposed.*
8. There may be special costume days when the appearance code is modified with teacher/administrator approval.



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## General

1. Shoes must be closed-toed and closed-heeled.
2. Hats, sweatshirt hoods, bandanas, headphones/earpods or sunglasses are not to be worn in the school buildings during the academic day.
3. The ONLY visible pierced jewelry allowed is earrings on girls. Boys may not wear earrings at any time, either to school or to any school event.
4. Temporary **or permanent** tattoos (doodling on arms, legs, etc.) must not be visible.
5. Hair must be of modest style, well-kept and neatly groomed. Extreme hairstyles, excessive hair length (below the shoulders **for boys**) and unnatural hair colors will not be permitted.

## MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOL GUIDELINES

### Pants, Shorts or Skirts

1. **Skirts, dresses or shorts may be worn of an appropriate length, which is long enough to reach the tip of the student's fingers when standing with their hands by their side.**
2. Clothing must be clean and in good repair. Clothing with holes (intended or not) and/or patches are not permitted.
3. **Leggings and yoga pants may be worn as long as they are covered by skirts, shorts or dresses that reach the tip of the student's fingers when standing with their hands by their side.**
4. **Gym shorts, sweatpants and other athletic attire are not permitted outside of P.E. class.**

### Shirts

1. **Students are permitted to wear T-shirts with Charlotte Christian School, college or professional team logos, as well as athletic brand logos that align with the school's guiding principles (i.e. Under Armour, Nike, Lululemon, etc.). Collared polos, golf shirts, button-down dress shirts or henley shirts are permitted.**
2. Undergarments must not be visible.
3. **Necklines may not be plunging or revealing.**
4. Shirts with loose fitting armholes, sheer fabric or cropped shirts must have an appearance code approved shirt underneath.
5. **Shirts must consistently cover the midsection (front, back and sides).**
6. **Shirts must cover both shoulders at all times.**

### Athletic/P.E. Attire

1. P.E. attire may not be worn in classrooms or common areas during the school day (including in the dining hall and during Senior Flex).
2. **All shorts must have at least a three inch inseam for P.E. classes, at Windy Gap, on field days, spirit days or other co-curricular activities.**
3. **Shirts must fully cover the back, front, and sides at all times.**
4. Athletic teams may request to wear dress code appropriate clothing from their spirit pack on Fridays. The entire team must wear the same attire and the outfit must be approved by administration prior to the day it is worn.
5. **Students are expected to keep a shirt on at all times, on and off campus during practices, contests and events.** Notable exceptions would be water activities for athletics.



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## General

1. Hair must be of modest style, well-kept and neatly groomed. Extreme hairstyles/color/length will not be permitted.
2. Facial hair on young men is allowed but must be neatly groomed.
3. Hats, sweatshirt hoods, bandanas, headphones/earpods or sunglasses are not to be worn in the school buildings during the academic day.
4. The only visible pierced jewelry allowed is earrings on girls. Boys must not wear earrings to school or to any school event. Students with additional piercings (for example: nose, lip or eyebrow piercings) will be required to remove their jewelry when they arrive at school or put in an invisible spacer during the school day, regardless of how recent the piercing has occurred.
5. Tattoos, whether permanent or temporary, or doodling on the skin must not be visible.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times, both indoors and outdoors. Athletic slides, slippers and rubber flip-flops are not permitted.

## Special Occasion Guidelines

On certain days such as awards, ceremonies, chapels and other announced occasions, students will be expected to dress in a more formal fashion:

1. **Students** may wear dress pants or dress jeans (no rips or holes; no shorts).
2. Females may wear dresses and skirts that **reach the tip of their fingers when standing with their hands by their side**. If females cannot find a skirt/dress that meets the length requirement, please wear dress pants.
3. Males may wear a collared shirt or a shirt and tie.
4. Athletic slides, flip flops or pool shoes **are not permitted**.
5. **Field trips or activities requiring a bathing suit must be one-piece or a tankini with no midriff exposed for females. For males, swim trunks must meet the fingertip rule. When not participating in water activities, males must wear a T-shirt.**

## Formal Event Expectations

**Students and their guests are required to abide by the expectations listed on event specific documents which are available in the upper school office.**

## APPEARANCE CODE ENFORCEMENT

We encourage parental direction and support since the burden of supervision rests with the parents. The appearance code is a set of guidelines, which parents are called to support and students are called to adhere. However, the final decision about the appropriateness of clothing or appearance for school rests with school administration - regardless of whether it is specifically addressed in the appearance code. It is the school's desire to be as consistent as possible in the enforcement of the school appearance code. However, it should be noted that the guidelines do not change because a student was not cited when wearing inappropriate school attire.