

HCA ELEMENTARY DRESS CODE GUIDELINES



Heritage Christian Academy is an educational institution dedicated to training young men and women to become self-disciplined members of the body of Christ. Each student and staff member shares the responsibility of developing a school spirit that honors our Lord Jesus Christ.

In keeping with this philosophy, students and parents are asked to display wisdom in their choices of proper attire for school days and school functions. The school staff relies heavily upon the discretion and loving cooperation of parents as they guide their children to observe school dress guidelines. At Heritage Christian Academy dress standards emphasize neatness, modesty, and concern for others. Teachers are familiar with these guidelines and will lovingly enforce them. Regarding individual dress code questions, the final decision will be made at the discretion of the school administration.

I. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS

A. PANTS

Neat blue jeans are permitted on both *casual Fridays* (every week unless indicated otherwise by the administration to accommodate special events or exceptions) and on special dress-down days (as announced by the administration). Cargos, khakis, corduroys and slacks are examples of good every-day options. Capri pants are acceptable. Frayed, torn or ripped pants, noticeably worn or faded pants, excessively baggy or tight pants, wind or sweatpants, and drawstring or elastic waist pants are outside dress code guidelines.

B.. SHIRTS

HCA long and short-sleeved spirit wear may be worn at any time. All shirts can be worn untucked (unless otherwise indicated by the administration or teachers to accommodate special events or exceptions).

C.. SWEATERS AND SWEATSHIRTS

Boys and girls may wear neat sweaters, jackets and hoodies. HCA sweatshirts may be worn at any time.

D. SCREEN PRINTS AND LOGOS

Logo shirts are not acceptable unless it is a designated day. A logo shirt is defined as a shirt with a descriptive word or statement, geographic locations, vacation destinations, trendy names (princess, angel, etc.). Christian slogans, Scripture verses, name brands (GAP, Tommy Hilfiger, Old Navy), or pictures which fill the space across the front or back of the shirt. The exceptions are small name brands (3 inches maximum) and HCA shirts.

HCA Dress Guidelines continued

- E. SHORTS
All of September and all of May are approved as shorts days at students' discretion. At other times when the weather is expected to be exceptionally warm, the administration may declare additional short days. When choosing shorts, be sure they are of modest length. For both boys and girls, shorts should have a length that falls at least at mid-thigh. Jean shorts are permitted on *casual Fridays*.
- F. OUTDOOR WEAR
Hats, sunglasses, hoods, coats, and camouflage are for outdoor wear only.
- G. .Girls are required to wear skirts or dresses to school programs. For school programs boys are to wear shirts tucked into neat and belted pants.

II. GUIDELINES SPECIFICALLY FOR BOYS

- A. HAIR
At Heritage Christian Academy our guidelines for boys' hair length is neat and of modest length. Hair may be styled to the student's preference. Bangs need to be above the eyebrow, and hair should be shirt collar length or above in the back. Eyes must be clearly visible. Students whose hair is too long will be asked to get a haircut.
- B. JEWELRY
Jewelry will be modest and in good taste. Any adornments requiring piercing are not allowed for school.

III. GUIDELINES SPECIFICALLY FOR GIRLS

- A. PANTS
Girls should be careful to select pants that are appropriately modest when seated as well as when standing. There should be no skin exposed on the lower back when ladies are seated. When a skirt or dress meets dress code length, leggings are an acceptable addition.
- B. DRESSES
Girls may wear dresses and skirts that extend to the top of the knee or below.
- C. TOPS
In keeping with modest, shirt length should insure that no matter what posture is assumed, skin is not exposed in the abdomen or lower back. Strappy tanks and off-the-shoulder styles are not acceptable.
- D. COSMETICS
Girls in the elementary grades should refrain from the use of cosmetics.