



ACADEMICALLY EXCELLENT, CHRIST-CENTERED

## Dress Code Guidelines (K-12<sup>th</sup>) 2019- 2020

### Guiding Principles of the Code (B.A.S.I.C.):

1. Balanced
2. Applicable to K-12
3. Simple to understand
4. In harmony with God's Word
5. Can be enforced

### Enforcement Pillars of the Code (Student appearance must be):

1. **Modest** – A student's appearance should reflect his/her identity as a follower of Christ. Students' attire should also be based on Biblical standards while avoiding bringing attention to the outer appearance (I Cor. 10:31; I Tim. 2: 9-10; I Peter 3:2-5). These Biblical standards of modesty should be reflected in a student's attire during school hours:
  - a. Any clothing or personal appearance that calls undue attention to the individual is not acceptable.
  - b. The general guideline for the length of shorts, skirts, and dresses requires that they are no shorter than 2" above the knee (this includes slits in skirts or dresses).
  - c. All clothing should be constructed in a style that is not too tight or body shape revealing.
  - d. Clothing should completely cover undergarments at all times (including while sitting or bending over).
  - e. Students should wear modest clothing styles that cover the neckline and are no lower than 2" below the collar bone and cover the midsection while standing in a normal posture or bending over.
2. **Conducive to a Christian Learning Environment** – Students should also have an appearance that is conducive to a Christian learning environment. Clothing or appearance should not be distracting to other students or staff members. It is important to note that these specific expectations are those identified by school leadership as best for a school setting rather than those that have been identified as moral obligations. These standards also provide an opportunity to prepare our students for their future when they may encounter various appearance guidelines at their places of employment or other venues. These standards include the following:
  - a. **Neatness:** All clothing should be clean and in good repair. Clothing with holes, patches, stains, or ragged/frayed ends may not be worn. This includes clothes that are designed with frayed/ragged ends or holes.
  - b. **Shoes:** All well-maintained shoes and sandals are permitted, with heels no higher than 2" tall; K-6 sandals must have straps around the back of the heel for safety.
  - c. **Pants:** All pants, shorts, skirts and dresses must be Khaki/chino-style, corduroy, or denim, and must be no shorter than 2" above the knee (this includes slits in skirts or dresses). Leggings made from other materials are allowed underneath skirts/dresses as long as the skirt/dress is no shorter than 2" above the knee.



ACADEMICALLY EXCELLENT, CHRIST-CENTERED

- d. **Shirts:** All shirts/blouses must be no lower than 2" below the collar bone. For girls, sleeves must come to the shoulder (no "spaghetti" straps or tank style). Off-the-shoulder styles are not allowed. Boys' shirts must have sleeves.
- e. **Labels/Graphics:** Attire should not promote images, labels, political ideologies, or philosophies that are in conflict with God's Word, or controversial enough to induce heated/emotional arguments about whether such an image, label, political ideology or philosophy is "Christian" or not (for example: secular bands, movie/TV show characters, political parties/politicians, etc.).
- f. **Hair/Head Coverings:** All hair (including facial hair) should look neat and natural. Any hairstyle, hair color, or head appearance – which includes but is not limited to hats, unnatural coloring, Mohawks, excessive sideburns, handlebar mustaches, designs shaved into hair, etc. – that tends to call undue attention to the individual is not acceptable. Hair should always be out of the eyes, regardless of how it is kept or worn, neatly trimmed, and well-groomed at all times. (Head coverings for documented religious purposes must be approved by the administration)
- g. **Body Art:** Tattoos or "body art" are not allowed, if visible.
- h. **Piercings:** Any type of visible piercing other than the ear or nose for female students, are not allowed. (This includes nose rings, lobe gauges/tunnels, etc.) Students who have prohibited piercings will be required to remove them.

### **The Elastic Clause**

The administration reserves the right to interpret all dress code policies and make final decisions regarding the appropriateness of student attire. Attempts to wear clothing that are considered extreme fashions/colors or distractions to the educational process will not be permitted. The ultimate goal of this policy is to create a school atmosphere that both honors the Lord and provides an excellent platform for learning.

### **On and Off-campus Dress Code Clause**

Students should also observe the dress code policies when attending Judah Christian sponsored events and functions.

### **Formal Dress Code Clause**

Students should observe the standard dress code policies at all formal events like Prom, graduation practice, graduation, awards ceremonies and banquets.

### **Homecoming Dress Code Clause**

Students should observe the standard dress code policies at all Homecoming events like assemblies, Homecoming games and activities. Spirit days during Homecoming week are somewhat flexible; however, Judah leadership, faculty and staff still reserve the right to interpret all dress code policies and make final decisions regarding appropriateness of student attire.

### **Finals Week Dress Code Clause**

Students should observe the standard dress code policies during Finals Week (Fall and Spring). Judah Leadership, faculty and staff still reserve the right to interpret all dress code policies and make final decisions regarding appropriateness of student attire.

July 2019