

# MCS Student & Employee Dress Code

The purpose of specified dress standards is to provide guidelines within which students and staff have the freedom to express individual tastes, while not being disruptive to the educational process or detrimental to one's Christian testimony. A wholesome appearance that reflects a pure heart is of primary importance when choosing clothes for school or school related functions (Board Policy 502.6). While certain clothing will not by itself create a responsible, humble follower, a dress code can present opportunities for personal growth and development of Christian character, especially when applied in an atmosphere, which seeks to integrate all aspects of life from a biblical perspective. We expect our students and staff to exemplify biblical standards in their dress, as well as their attitudes and lifestyles, and to encourage others to do likewise. Personal appearance that is considered questionable is left to the discretion of the Marshalltown Christian administration. Administration also reserves the right to waive any of the following policies for special occasions and circumstances.

## **General Appearance Standards**

- Clothing needs to be in good condition with no holes, whether accidental or on purpose.
- Clothing with any writing on it must not be sexually suggestive and must not promote tobacco, drugs, alcohol, gangs, or music groups that have demonstrated non-Christian values.
- Tattoos must not be visible.
- Earrings for female students and staff are the only acceptable body piercing. No gauging is allowed.

## **Tops**

- One's midriff, either front or back, may not be exposed.
- Cleavage must not be visible at any time.
- Shirts with an open back are not allowed.
- Tank tops, camis, strapless tops, or halter-tops may not be worn as a single garment.
- Sheer shirts must have a tank top under them and cannot be worn with a cami, strapless top, or halter-top.

## **Bottoms**

- Pants, jeans, or any other type of bottoms must not fit too tight or too loose. Some examples of inappropriate fit would include the following:
  - Leggings, jeggings, yoga pants, etc.
  - Pants so loose they can be pulled down over the hips.
  - Writing across the seat is NOT permitted.
  - Skirts, shorts, and dresses must be a modest length (mid-thigh or longer).
  - Even if leggings are worn underneath, the skirt/shorts/dress must still follow length guidelines.
  - Pajama and flannel pants may not be worn.
  - Underwear is not to be visible (including bras and bra straps).

**Shoes** - must be worn at all times (may include sandals, slides, flip flops).

## **Hats & Hair**

- Caps, hats, and headwear are not allowed during the school day.
- Hair must be clean, well groomed, and kept out of the face for both male and female students. Facial hair must be neatly trimmed.

**Chapel Attire** - Every Wednesday is chapel day for K-8 students and staff. Chapel attire for girls is dressy outfits such as skirts, dresses, dress slacks, or dress shorts. Boys are to wear dress shorts or slacks and a nice shirt.

Blue jeans are not allowed. Ties are optional. Weekly chapel will require students to be in "chapel dress."

\* Shorts may be worn anytime during the year as long as they meet dress code standards.

**Staff Enforcement of Dress Code** - All MCS staff is responsible for monitoring student dress code; therefore, teachers will conduct purposeful dress code check throughout the day. Students in violation of the dress code will be sent to the office.

**Student Consequences for Dress Code Violation** - Student violation of the dress code standards shall result in the following:

- The first violation will be a warning in the student's record; parents may be contacted either by email or phone. The student will need to change into appropriate clothing. Students can either secure appropriate clothing or wear items provided by MCS for the remainder of the day. Missed classes, while changing clothes, will be considered unexcused absences.
- Subsequent violations will result in parental contact and detentions. Repeat offenders are subject to further disciplinary action as determined by the appropriate administrator.