

BG Christian Academy Dress Code Policy

The standards of dress and grooming contained in this document are for school, whether on or off of our BG Christian campuses. While we recognize that it is not morally wrong to have variations of hair-style or clothing that are different from the items allowed in the dress code, BG Christian's dress and appearance standards are designed to create an atmosphere in which students are able to focus on honoring the Lord while in pursuit of their education. If there is a question or appeal, the BG Christian Director of Academics and/or Head of Schools will make the final decision, with consultation of the School Board when needed.

Modesty and professionalism are two of our main goals in regards to dress code.

Modesty refers primarily to a genuine personal concern about the response your dress and behavior produce in the heart and mind of another person, and therefore should be reflected in a student's appearance at all times. Their appearance should first reflect his or her appearance as a follower of Christ. In part, this means that while we do not necessarily need to look different from the world, we do not need to place our focus on what is in style. Everything we do is an expression of our relationship with God. In His word, He makes it clear that we are to be modest and treat our bodies with the utmost respect and reverence. In treating our own bodies with respect, we should present ourselves in a way that commands respect from others and deters unwanted or negative attention to our person. Students' appearance should also reflect the Christian value of encouraging the focus on the inner self, not the outer.

Professionalism not only sets a standard for a learning community committed to excellence, but also prepares students for their future, including compliance with dress code standards in a workplace or other location. While we want students to be comfortable, we also desire that students wear clothing that gives an age-appropriate reflection of professionalism. It is important to note that these standards do not involve morality, rather, they are preferences that BG Christian seeks to uphold in our school community. In the enforcement of these policies, only the Director of Academics and/or Head of School have the discretion to interpret and apply these policies as appropriate. BG Christian has carefully considered and applied the following biblical principles in establishment of the dress code policy for all BG Christian students:

- Student attire should be God honoring. **1 Corinthians 10:31**
"So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

- Student attire should be modest. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**
“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”
- Student attire should take student safety into account. **1 Corinthians 13:7a**
“It (love) always protects...”
- Student attire should be non-distracting in the classroom and should promote a higher level of learning excellence. **Romans 14:19 & 21**
“Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification... It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything else that will cause your brother to fall.”

Partnership with Parents

- Parents should work with and guide their children to make good choices in the area of appropriate clothing and good grooming. We expect clothing and personal appearance decisions to be handled at home to ensure compliance with BG Christian standards. This is part of the parents' Statement of Cooperation.
- Parents should review and familiarize themselves with the Dress Code Policy on a regular basis.
- Should your student's attire be deemed inappropriate, parents should expect to receive a call from the school and be prepared to bring or facilitate a change of clothing.

Proverbs 6:20 *“My son, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching.”*

Ephesians 6:4 *“And you fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”*

General Guidelines for All Students

- Clothing must fit appropriately (neither too tight nor too loose).
- All clothing must be clean and in good repair.
- At no time should undergarments be visible.
- Clothing exposing the torso or midriff may not be worn. This includes when raising the hand, sitting down, picking up objects, etc.

Shirts

All shirts should be solid colored, have a collar, and be either button-up or polo style. Button-down dress shirts must be worn tucked in. Hems should rest no lower

than 6" below the waist and should always be long enough to cover the waistband. This includes when the student is sitting and arms are outstretched or over the head.

Sweaters/Jackets/Sweatshirts

Solid colored cardigans, pullovers, or vests are allowed. Only BG Christian logo jackets/pullovers/fleece may be worn during the school day. A shirt must be worn under the top layer.

Pants/Shorts

Cotton twill in navy, tan, khaki, or black only. No tight-fitting styles, low-riders, cargo pants or leggings. No patches, tears, or embellishments. Elastic waists are ok. Pants must be worn at the waist at all times without needing to repeatedly be pulled up. For girls, solid colored leggings may be worn only under a skirt or dress. Shorts must have a 9 inch inseam (or 2 inches above the knee, whichever is shorter) for both boys and girls.

Skirts/Jumpers/Dresses

Cotton twill in navy, tan, khaki, or black only. No more than two inches above the knee, even if leggings are worn. Leggings and tights must be a solid color.

Belts

Must be worn if pants do not fit securely around the waist.

Shoes

Comfortable shoes that fit securely on the foot. No flip-flops, snow boots, heels greater than 2", platforms, Crocs, Heelys, slippers, sandals, or open-toed shoes. Boots are allowed only if they hit at the ankle (the only exception is with skirts for young ladies).

Socks

Socks must be worn at all times. Solid colors only. A small brand name, logo, or emblem on the sock is permissible.

Hats & Accessories

Hats, caps, scarves, leg warmers, etc. may not be worn during the school day. Hair accessories can be worn only if not interfering with learning.

Makeup

Worn by 6th-12th grade girls only. Limited to muted eyeshadow, mascara, and light or neutral lip color. Nail polish is allowed, but nails should be trimmed to a natural length that does not interfere with learning.

Hair & Facial Hair

Students must keep their hair neat, clean, and in traditional styles. Only natural hair colors are allowed. Hair must not hang in the eyes. All facial hair must be neat and well-groomed.

Piercings & Tattoos

Girls may have ears pierced only (no more than 2 per ear). Boys with pierced ears may not wear earrings on campus or to any school-related function. Body/facial piercings of any kind are not allowed. Tattoos must be covered at all times while on campus or at any school-related function.

Cold Weather

Students may wear a solid-colored cardigan, BG Christian logo jacket/fleece pullover, or a solid color zip up or ¼ zip fleece. No hoods are allowed. (Sweatshirts and/or hoodies are only allowed on the playground or on Spirit Wear Fridays, with appropriate school logo/emblem).

Spirit Wear Fridays

Relaxed or regular fit jeans are allowed, along with a BG Christian t-shirt, athletic shirt, sweatshirt, hoodie, or pullover. Jeans must fit the guidelines of approved pants style, including no embellishments or patches. Distressing is allowed only if there is backing and no skin showing. No tight fitting styles, low-riders, or jeggings. If spirit wear is not worn, regular student dress code must be followed.

Middle School/High School/CCP

Regular student dress code with the exception that students may wear blue denim jeans daily as another pants option. Jeans must fit the guidelines of approved pants style, including no embellishments or patches. Distressing is allowed only if there is backing and no skin showing. No tight fitting styles, low-riders, or jeggings. CCP students must be in dresscode while in the building.

Physical Education/Athletics

UC PE - Any color athletic shorts or sweatpants in good condition. Shorts must be no shorter than a 5 inch inseam. No tank tops or sleeveless shirts for PE classes. Shirts must be worn at all times. Additionally, each athletic team has specific guidelines for uniforms that must be followed for practices and athletic events (please see the coach or athletic director).

Casual School Functions

Non-school dress code may be approved for school functions (ie. field trips) during the school day. When approved, students must comply with the dress code for Spirit Wear Fridays stated above. Additional or optional attire will be approved on a case per case basis. Students who fail to abide by these guidelines will not be permitted to participate in the activity until the violation is corrected. The administration will make the final decision as to the appropriateness of a student's attire.

Other School Functions

Students attending school functions such as athletics events, art shows, etc. are to remember they are always BG Christian students first and should dress in a manner keeping with the school's philosophy for standard of dress. Students may be asked to leave or change if the clothing is determined to be inappropriate or in violation of our code of modesty.

Violation/Discipline/Resolution

- Warnings will be given for the following: If a dress code violation is observed by a staff member/teacher and the violation can be fixed immediately, the student will be directed to fix the violation, and an email will be sent to the front office. If the dress code violation can not be rectified at school, the student will be sent to the office and the student's home will be called to bring whatever is needed to fix the violation. In either case, the office will record the incident and send an email to the parent/guardian.
- If a third violation is issued in a semester, the offense needs to be corrected as above and a silent lunch detention will be issued. If there are not enough days remaining in the school year to complete a lunch detention, then the Director of Academics will issue an equivalent consequence.
- If a fourth violation is issued in a semester, the offense needs to be corrected as above and the student will receive an after school detention. If there are not

enough days remaining in the school year to complete a lunch detention, then the Director of Academics will issue an equivalent consequence.

- A fifth violation in one semester will be considered a lack of cooperation by the student and the parent will be required to come in for a meeting with the Director of Academics to further discuss the matter.

**Note: All tracking will be done at the Front Desk of each building, not by the teacher(s). However, teachers are expected to enforce the policy with all students each period. If a student shows up to class and is in violation, it is the responsibility of the teacher to direct them for a dress code check. A student can receive more than one notice in a day (ex. The student is issued a violation during 2nd period and makes the correction by removing a hooded sweatshirt. Later, the student puts the sweatshirt back on and goes to 5th period class).*