

## **Student Appearance - Dress Guidelines**

In keeping with the stated philosophy, we ask our parents and students to remember that our students represent Lincoln Lutheran and the Church. Dress and appearance can be a powerful witness. Cleanliness, neatness, safety, and Christian modesty and decency will always be taken into account. A dress code lends a degree of formality to the setting of formal education and supports the activity of schooling.

We dress for the occasion, and the occasion here is organized study and learning. We will not imitate the evil of this world, nor will we accept dress or appearance simply because it is considered popular or fashionable. “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Romans 12:2

If there is any question about the appropriateness of student dress, we expect parents to guide the student according to this policy. Should there still be a question, discuss the issue with the Principal. The Principal will make the final decision regarding the suitability of any article of clothing or manner of dress. Students whose clothing and/or manner of dress fall outside acceptable limits will be handled according to the following procedure.

Students with questionable appearance/attire will be addressed first by an administrator. If the student can correct the violation, they should do so immediately and not repeat the violation for the remainder of the school year. If the student cannot easily correct a violation of the dress/appearance guidelines, appropriate action will be taken. This may include the possibility of parental contact for a different set of clothes or the sending of the student home for correction of appearance/dress violation. If a parent cannot be contacted for correction arrangements, the student will remain in the office, and be recorded as absent (excused) from class until the violation is corrected, or until the end of the school day.

### **Specific Appearance Guidelines:**

#### **Cleanliness, Neatness, and Safety**

- Clothing and accessories should be clean.
- Clothing and accessories should not be the source of offensive odors.
- Clothing and accessories should not be tattered, frayed or have holes, slits, or other “openings” that are not normal for that type of clothing.
- Clothing or accessories should not be worn either in design or manner that restricts free, natural movement, or could be caught or entwined in equipment, on stairways or other potentially dangerous apparatus or that could cause harm to other people or damage to property.

#### **Examples of Improper Apparel**

- Footwear that is unsafe or not in proper working order
- Bedroom slippers
- Shoes with cleats
- Wallet chains

- Heavy winter coats, trench coats, or blankets worn during class time
- “Excessive” jewelry (amount or style)
- Clothing or accessories with sharp or pointed edges (or otherwise deemed dangerous)
- Shoes that mark the floor or other surfaces
- Pant legs of a length that causes the wearer to walk on the cuff

### **Christian Decency/Modesty**

Clothes, school bags, shoes, or other personal belongings should not contain words, drawings, pictures, emblems, or insignias that:

- Are vulgar in nature
- Represent Satanic or occult meaning
- Advertise drug, alcohol, or tobacco products
- Give negative witness of our school, our Lord, or ourselves
- Either directly or indirectly represent or insinuate non-Christian or worldly sentiment

When deciding what style of clothing to wear to school, the student should be reminded to avoid items that might draw undue attention to them or may offend others.

- No hairstyles or hair color that brings undue attention to the student by nature of the style or the tint
- Caps, hats and coat or sweatshirt hoods are not to be worn in the school buildings
- Shorts and skirts should be no higher than six inches above the top of the knee cap. This guideline applies if tights are worn under shorts or skirts
- Tights, leggings, jeggings, or similar types of clothing may be worn provided an appropriate garment (shorts or a skirt, for example) is worn that is no higher than six inches above the kneecap.
- No tank tops or spaghetti strap shirts, unless worn under or over an appropriate shirt. All shirt sleeves should extend past the end of the shoulder to at least the upper arm
- No skin shall be visible at the midriff (a student should be able to touch the top of their head with both hands without exposing skin)
- The neckline of shirts should be no lower than the distance measured down from the base of the neck by the width of the student’s hand and the neckline should not extend to the shoulders
- Clothing should not be excessively tight or revealing. Jeans should have a button or other fastener at the waist, a zipper, and functional pockets.
- Clothing should be in conformance to a student’s biological sex
- No sheer or see-through shirts or blouses unless worn over an otherwise appropriate shirt
- At no point should a student’s undergarments, including sports bras, be visible
- No visible body piercings or gauges. (This includes all areas of the body except the ears)
- No visible tattoos.

### **Activities and Field Trips:**

- The school dress code remains in effect any time a student or group of students is representing Lincoln Lutheran, whether or not school is in session. This includes, but is not limited to, field trips and school activities (on or off campus). A standard of dress

above the minimum required by the dress code may be required for some activities or field trips.

- Shirts for Athletic Activities
  - Shirts with sleeves should be worn for all practices, after school or off-season conditioning, and off-season leagues and camps.
  - Basketball jerseys can be worn for basketball-related activities.
  - Sleeveless shirts may be worn by football players under shoulder pads. Shirts with sleeves should be worn during non-pad practices.
- Shorts for Athletic Activities
  - A minimum four-inch inseam is required for athletic shorts for practices, after school or off-season conditioning, and off-season leagues and camps.
  - Volleyball shorts worn for volleyball practices and off-season leagues and camps should have a three-inch inseam.
- Clothing that is considered “normal” attire for an activity meets the requirements of the Lincoln Lutheran Dress Code for competitions.

**NOTES:**

- All slogans, messages, and symbols must be harmonious with the philosophy of Lincoln Lutheran.
- The Lincoln Lutheran Administration reserves the right to make discretionary judgments regarding the appropriateness of student dress and appearance not explicitly covered by the Dress Code guidelines.
- At times, such as dress-up days during Homecoming Week and National Lutheran Schools Week, student dress that does not conform to portions of the Dress Code guidelines may be allowed.

**Consequences for Dress Code Violations**

1 <sup>st</sup> Offense	Referral to office, correct inappropriate clothing
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	Referral to office, correct inappropriate clothing, detention assigned
3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense	Referral to office, correct inappropriate clothing, further disciplinary action