

STUDENT DRESS CODE
Middle School

Part of the total educational process for students is learning to dress appropriately and behave responsibly in a variety of situations. Students are expected to dress in a manner appropriate to the school environment and which does not cause disruption to the academic process. Research has shown a correlation between appearance and behavior, especially in the school setting. The Whitehall City School District requires standard dress for students in grades 6-12 in order to:

1. improve relations by decreasing conflicts over clothing between students, staff and parents;
2. promote a serious atmosphere for learning;
3. promote campus safety and security and
4. promote a sense of school spirit and community.

These regulations will assist parents, students, faculty and administrators in determining appropriate student standards for dress while at school or school-sponsored activities.

1. Students are responsible to dress according to the approved dress code.
2. Parents are also responsible for ensuring students are dressed appropriately for school.
3. Administration and faculty, together, are responsible for enforcement of the dress code. The dress code is enforced at school and school functions not open to the public. The decision of the principal is final with regard to dress code violations.
4. When dress or grooming interferes with the cleanliness, health, welfare or safety of students, or when dress or grooming disrupts the educational process by being distracting, indecent or inappropriate, it is prohibited. Clothing must be worn as designed and appropriately sized.
5. Sponsors and teachers of elective programs (such as vocational classes) or elective activities (such as sports and music) may require more strict standards regarding dress and appearance for participants in their program or activity.
6. As new trends in fashion or dress emerge or become out of date, the District reviews and revises the dress code to reflect the standards of the community.

Permitted Attire

Whitehall Spirit Wear:	Style: T-shirts, polos, sweater shirts without hoods Colors: Black, white, or gray Logos: Whitehall or Rams
Scarves:	Colors: Black, white, gray, tan
Headbands:	Colors: Black, white, gray, tan
Pants:	Style: Docker, dress, or cargo type Fabric: Cotton, twill, corduroy or denim, <u>No</u> sweat, velour or wind pant material Length: <u>Cannot</u> drag on the floor Colors: Solid tan, black, or gray
Shorts/Capris:	Style: Docker, dress, or cargo type Fabric: Cotton, twill, corduroy, or denim <u>No</u> sweat, velour or wind pant material Length: Touching top of knee for shorts Colors: Solid tan, black, or gray
Skirts/Skorts/Jumpers/Dresses	Style: Straight or pleated Fabric: Cotton, twill, corduroy, or denim <u>No</u> sweat, velour or wind pant material Length: Touching top of knee No slits Colors: Solid tan, black, or gray
Shirts	Style: All shirts must have a collar and sleeves. Collared shirts must have at least two buttons at the neck. Turtlenecks or mock turtlenecks may be worn. Logos: Shirts may have product logos <u>if</u> they are smaller than a quarter Colors: Gray, white or black

Sweaters	Style: V-neck, crewneck, cardigan or vests may be worn. Sweaters must be worn over a collared top. Colors: Gray, white or black.
Sweatshirts	Style: Crewneck No hoodies may be worn. Sweatshirts may not be oversized. Colors: Gray, white or black.
Belts	Belts, in colors of black or brown, must be worn with pants or skirts that have belt loops.
Shoes/Boots	Shoes must be worn and may not present a safety hazard. House slippers may <u>not</u> be worn. Heels may <u>not</u> be higher than 2 inches.
Socks	Socks, tights, or hose must be in black, white, tan or gray.

Prohibited Attire

1. Any top or bottom not listed in permitted attire.
2. Accessories which:
 - A. could be interpreted as promoting hate or communicating negative, profane or vulgar messages;
 - B. denote membership in a gang;
 - C. advertise or are related in any way to alcohol, tobacco, drugs or weapons;
 - D. have messages that are sexual, vulgar, suggestive or objectionable;
 - E. are extreme in terms of size, color, etc.;
 - F. do not match approved colors or
 - G. are deemed to be extreme or distracting by the building principal.
3. Extreme or distracting body piercing adornments.

4. “Dog collars,” spiked bracelets, chain wallets or chains that could be dangerous to persons or destructive to school property.
5. Hats, caps, bandanas, sunglasses, other head apparel (except for religious or medical reasons) or leg or arm bands.
6. Outdoor jackets/coats in the building.
7. Hooded tops are not allowed to be worn in the building.

Additional Requirements

1. All clothing must be clean and in good repair.
2. No undergarments may show; no see-through clothing.
3. All tops, pants, shorts, skirts, skorts and jumpers are to be properly fitted and hemmed. Clothing must fit at the waist. No sagging is allowed. No oversized or skin tight clothing is permitted. No tattered, dirty, torn or clothing with holes is permitted.
4. Belts must be secured and fit at the waist.
5. Hair must be clean, worn out of the eyes and groomed at all times; no extreme or distracting hair color or makeup is allowed.
6. Any special needs variations to the standard dress requirements should be approved by medical or IEP authorization.
7. No writing or pictures on clothing, accessories, or shoes except for permitted logos and approved spirit wear.

Dress Code Violations

Students who violate this policy shall be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

A warning will be issued and the student’s parents/guardians will be notified of the warning and may be required to pick up a student or bring alternative clothing for the student to wear. Further disciplinary action will be at the discretion of the principal. The building principal will make the final decision at the building level if a student’s attire does not meet the requirements of this policy.

Dress Code Exceptions

Exceptions to these guidelines may be made by building principals for activities such as proms, physical education, dress-down days and other special events.

The decision of the principal on dress code violations is final.

(Approval date: October 20, 2005)
(Re-approval date: May 10, 2007)
(Re-approval date: February 14, 2008)
(Re-approval date: March 12, 2009)
(Re-approval date: September 12, 2013)
(Re-approval date: February 9, 2017)
(Re-approval date: March 8, 2018)
(Re-approval date: July 12, 2018)