

SECONDARY SCHOOL (7-12 grade)

DRESS CODE

One of the primary concerns of Westside Christian Academy is the education of young people. Though academic excellence is important, WCA also sets standards relating to the moral and social character of students. When students appropriately arrive for school, they reflect that they are ready to work. Students should always be neat and clean. All clothing as described below should be modest and appropriate for school.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL STUDENTS (4K-12)

Acceptable school wear includes uniform approved apparel from Schoolbelles Uniform, JC Penny Uniform Catalog and area department stores that sell our uniform colors & style as described below.

DRESS CODE ENFORCEMENT

The Dress Code is enforced during the entire school day. The school day begins upon the student arriving to school and ends at 3:30. Students who remain on campus after that time must remain in uniform (including shirts tucked in) until 6 pm unless they are involved in an after school program that requires them to be dressed otherwise. The school day includes lunch periods, study halls, early dismissals and late arrivals. Considering the clear communication regarding the dress code, and in fairness to students who adhere to it, those students in violation will be disciplined. Any of the following would be considered a **Dress Code Violation**: Shirts/blouses untucked, pants that are **sagging or are worn low crotch style**, not wearing a WCA embroidered polo shirt, black belt or proper shoes. *The administration reserves and exercises the right to make judgement calls in the enforcement of the dress code.*

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

- 1st Offense: Student will be sent to office to wait until proper clothes arrive from home. Student will be marked absent for class(es) missed. Student will receive one hour of after school detention.
- 2nd Offense: Student will be sent to office to wait until proper clothes arrive from home. Student will be marked absent for class(es) missed. Student will receive two hours of after school detention.
- 3rd Offense: Student will be sent to office to wait until proper clothes arrive from home. Student will be marked absent for class(es) missed. Student will receive three hours of after school detention.
- 4th Offense: Student will be sent to office to wait until proper clothes arrive from home. Student will be marked absent for class(es) missed. Student will receive a half-day in-house suspension.
- 5th Offense: Student will be sent to office to wait until proper clothes arrive from home. Student will be marked absent for class(es) missed. Student will receive a full day in-house suspension and receive an unexcused absence for the missed day. A meeting with the parent is required for student to return to school.
- 6th Offense: Student will be sent to office for a two-day suspension. Student will receive unexcused absences for the days missed. A meeting with Dean of Discipline, Dean of Academics, parent and student is required to determine WCA status.

PANTS/SLACKS/SHORTS/SKORTS/SKIRTS

Black and Khaki **pleated uniform skirts** and **skorts** can be purchased from Schoolbelles, JC Penny Uniform Catalog and local department stores that sell this style of uniform. Our **plaid skirt pattern** is only available from Schoolbelles Uniform store. **PANTS/SLACKS/SHORTS/SKORTS/SKIRTS** may not be snug fitting. Length of skirts and skorts may not be higher than two inches above the knee. Any combination of colors – black, red and/or white dresses, skirts or skorts are NOT acceptable school uniform for any student. Skirts/skorts that are not uniform style are NOT approved for wear. This would include any non pleated skirt that falls between the ankle and knee.

Acceptable school wear for **pants/slacks/shorts** are made of cotton twill, traditionally cut, black or khaki in color. Pants/slacks should be worn at the waist with normal sizing (ie, if a student's waist measures 32", the purchased size should not be 36"). The pant legs are to be hemmed and not drag on the floor. The same waist guideline should be followed for walking shorts in warm weather. All students wearing shorts must be covered to a point on their thigh so when the student is standing with their arms in a relaxed position, straight down at their sides, their finger tips do not touch skin. Otherwise the shorts are deemed inappropriate for school.

Unacceptable school wear includes **pants/slacks/walking pants** made of nylon, leather, army wear, sweat pant material, black denim, stirrup pants, stretch pants, snug fit pants, pajama-style pants, cargo pants, bib-overall

style, capris or bellbottom pants. Pants with a tie or Velcro waist, a **sagging or low crotch style**, or legs of a nontraditional length or width are not permitted.

BELTS

All students are to wear a solid black belt with a gold or silver belt buckle when wearing Pants/Slacks/Shorts. Black belts are not to be decorative, or have metal studs. Any other color belt is unacceptable.

SHIRTS/BLOUSES

Acceptable school **shirts/blouses** are the WCA embroidered red, black or white polo shirts which are purchased through the WCA office. All shirts/blouses must be tucked in. "Tucked in" is defined as being able to see the belt, belt loops and waistline. Red, black or white long sleeve cotton t-shirt style or turtlenecks may only be worn underneath the WCA embroidered polo (golf) shirt. or any other approved WCA apparel for that school year. Students will be notified of additional approved WCA apparel for that school year. (ie, WCA embroidered sweatshirt or sweater)

SWEATERS

Acceptable school sweaters are v-neck cardigans solid red or black in color, with the WCA polo shirt underneath. Unacceptable fashions include polo shirts without the WCA logo, tee shirts, sleeveless shirts, collarless shirts, mock turtlenecks, banded collar shirts, banded collar Henley shirts and long underwear shirts. These shirts may not be worn alone or over shirts in the style of a sweater. Short sleeved shirts may not be worn over long sleeved shirts.

FOOTWEAR/SOCKS/HOSIERY

Acceptable footwear for boys and girls are black street shoes (ie slippers or tie-ups) For boys, black or white socks are always required with footwear and must be worn inside the pant leg. Girls may wear standard traditional hosiery, red, black or white socks which are always required with footwear and must be worn inside the pant leg. Black sandals are acceptable during warm weather months only.

Unacceptable footwear includes boots (motorcycle, construction, army, snow, etc.), soccer sandals, slippers and athletic shoes. Gym shoes are not to be worn other than for PE class.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hairstyles – Extremes in style, length and color are to be avoided. Braids, dreadlocks, twists, spirals, poof balls are unacceptable hairstyles and hair length may not be more than a 1 inch fro for boys. Hair is not to rest on a boys collar. Hair is to be groomed at all times for boys and girls.

Hats – Hats of any type (baseball, sweatbands, scarf's, stocking, etc) are not to be worn during school hours.

Jewelry/Body piercing – Excesses in ear piercings or extremes in jewelry are to be avoided for girls. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings on school property or school sponsored functions. Boys need to avoid wearing necklaces to school or school sponsored functions. Other than pierced ears for girls, no jewelry related to body piercing is acceptable. Boys are not permitted to get their ears pierced while attending WCA.

Body Tattoos – Visible tattoos or temporary tattoos are not permitted. Students who come to WCA with visible tattoos must keep them covered. WCA strongly suggest parents do not allow students to get tattoos while attending WCA.

Accessories – Sunglasses, electronic pagers/communications devices, chains/wallet chains, portable games, or personal stereos are not permitted. These items will be confiscated and will be returned after a parent meets with the Secondary Administration.

Outerwear – Hooded fleece pullovers, jean jackets or any jackets are not permitted to be worn during school hours. This would include quilted/insulated shirts, flannel shirts, dress shirts, and blouses that are worn as jackets (ie, un tucked and unbuttoned).

Casual Days - (Dress Down Days) – Torn/ripped clothing "rock or rap" tee-shirts, etc. are not permitted. The standards of modesty and neatness still apply; a casual day/Dress Down Day is not an "anything goes" day. Jeans must be of normal sizing and length. No low crotch style, holes, torn or frayed jeans are permitted and hats may not be worn. . Dresses or skirts that are more than 2" above the knee, shirts that are low cut, sheer, midriff in length or too tight are unacceptable. Pants that are extremely tight, spandex or leggings are unacceptable. Anything not listed as acceptable is **unacceptable**. Any student inappropriately dressed will be sent to the office to call home for appropriate clothing. Student will be marked absent for time waiting for change of clothes.

Team Uniforms – Sports teams are not permitted to wear their uniforms during school. This would include cheerleading uniforms.