



## Dress Code

Updated 8/29/19

The primary purpose of our school's dress code is to assure that our students are neat, clean, and well groomed for school activities. The appearance should reflect the Christian values of our school and foster a positive learning environment. Parents are responsible for making sure their children are dressed in accordance with this code.

**General Appearance** – Students should be dressed neatly. Clothes should be clean and tidy and should not be tight fitting, revealing, or inappropriately oversized. Holes, rips, and excessively frayed clothing will not be tolerated. A general dress code will be enforced on non-PE days. RLS school colors (navy, light blue, khaki, or white) should be worn on these days. The girls may also wear the designated plaid (available from prescribed vendors). Friday will be RLS casual dress day for most grades (unless this is their PE day). Students may wear any color on these days. A Special Event Dress Code may be required on specific days, such as field trips, school programs and class pictures, etc. (See specifications below.)

### General Dress Code

**Pants:** Walking shorts or pants are required. Fit should be comfortable; not too loose or too tight. Students are encouraged to wear pants that touch the top of their shoes. No sweatpants, soccer shorts, gym shorts, etc. are allowed (see PE Dress Code for exceptions). No cut-offs are allowed unless they are hemmed. No spandex or leggings may be worn as pants. Girls may wear leggings under skirts, jumpers, or dresses that are at least mid-thigh in length. Leggings should follow the RLS school color guidelines as outlined under "Dress Code: General Appearance".

**Shorts/Skirts/Skortts:** length should be mid-thigh or longer.

**Dresses:** length should fall between the knee and ankle. The dress should be the designated school color. Collared shirts must be worn under jumpers or sleeveless dresses.

**Shirts:** must have a collar or turtleneck. Sleeveless shirts for girls in warmer weather are allowed as long as they have collars, have the material between the neckline and arm at least "three fingers" wide (no "spaghetti straps"), and are form-fitting around the armpit area. Shirts should not have designs or writing on them, with the exception of approved shirts with the school logo. No plunging or scooped neckline. No see through or meshed material.

Normally, shirts will not have to be kept tucked in. However, it is at each teacher's discretion as to whether shirts will be kept tucked in on certain occasions, such as special trips, events, or times when visitors come to class, etc.

**T-shirts:** can be worn on casual days only. Designs or writing on the t-shirt should be age appropriate. Crude language or pictures will not be tolerated.

**Shoes:** Students are encouraged to wear sneakers or dress shoes. For safety reasons, open-toed and/or open-backed shoes (even if they have a strap in the back) are prohibited. This prohibition would include flip-flops, sandals, and clogs. Platform shoes and high heels are also prohibited. Students should wear athletic shoes or sneakers on their PE days. These shoes do NOT need to be kept at school on other days.

**Socks and Tights:** It is expected that socks are generally to be worn in school. Socks need not be worn when appropriate to the shoe design. Socks may be required for safety or hygiene reasons. Girls may wear stockings, pantyhose or tights that match the child's outfit. (See leggings addendum to "pants" section above.)

**Cardigans:** should match the child's outfit.

**Sweatshirt/pullover sweaters** are acceptable to wear inside as long as they are of school colors and do not have significant wording, lettering, or art, besides school logos/designs. Other sweatshirts may only be worn as "coats" (see below) and must be taken off when he or she comes inside the classroom.

**Coats:** should not be worn in the classroom. No restriction on design, color, or style.

**Hats:** to be worn outside. No offensive logos or words.

**Jewelry:** age appropriate jewelry. Only pierced earrings will be allowed, preferably no more than one piercing in each ear. Teachers will set their own rules in terms of rings, bracelets, and necklaces.

**Make-up:** lip moisturizers can be applied during the school day with the teacher's permission. Make-up should not be worn to school and will be confiscated if brought to school.

**Hair:** The school considers this to be a matter of personal responsibility and urges all parents to keep their children's hair well groomed. In exceptional cases, the principal will inform parents as to the necessity of proper hairstyle. Extreme fad haircuts and hair color will not be acceptable at school. Students with dyed hair of an unnatural color will be sent home. Boy's hair should not fall below the top of the shirt collar. Hair should never hang in the student's eyes.

## Special Event Dress Code

### Boys

Navy pants or shorts, white collared shirt (short or long sleeved). Belt should be worn if pants have belt loops.

### Girls

Navy skirt, skort or jumper with white collared shirt or designated RLS plaid skirt or jumper with collared white shirt

## PE Dress Code

### Required:

Teaching children how to prepare and properly dress for exercise is a skill and habit that they will be able to continue throughout their lives. Acceptable PE Dress Code is the prescribed PE shorts and shirts that may be purchased through RLS approved vendors. Athletic shoes with socks should be worn on gym days.

For colder weather PE days a student may wear sweatpants. These may be plain navy sweatpants purchased from various vendors or sweatpants printed with RLS logo (usually navy or grey sweatpants) purchased from RLS prescribed vendors. Girls may wear navy leggings under their approved PE shorts. Sweatshirts may be worn during PE class if they are the RLS Spirit Wear sweatshirts (purchased previously from RLS or currently through prescribed vendors) or plain navy.

PE outerwear dress requirements only apply while the student is in PE class. Students have the option to follow the general outerwear requirements found in the regular dress policies for their grade level (JK-5 or 6-8) under the "Sweatshirt/Pullover Sweater/Coats/Outerwear" sections.

**Consequences:** The following will occur if dress guidelines are violated:

1. On the first offense, the student will be issued a written warning that must be taken home and signed by a parent and returned to school. At the principal's discretion, the student may be asked to phone home for another item of clothing or one may be provided by the school.
2. On the second offense, the student will be sent to the school office where he/she will remain until a parent can be contacted and an appropriate item of clothing brought for the student.
3. Subsequent offenses will result in a conference between the principal and the parents to review and identify the problem and help find an appropriate solution.

## **Dress Code Addendum for Middle School** *Adopted 2019-2020*

Please look over the general guidelines in the Student Handbook concerning dress code. The following are guidelines pertaining only to the Middle School.

**Shirts:** Students must follow the general guidelines in the Student Handbook that are applicable to shirts with the exception that they are allowed to wear any solid color.

**Pants/shorts/skirts/skorts:** All bottoms must be either khaki or navy in color.

- Shorts/skirts/skorts hem must be no shorter than 7 inches from the crease of the back of the knee.
- Note the leggings section in the general guidelines under pants. Leggings/jeggings/tights/workout pants/yoga pants, etc. can only be worn under shorts, skirts or dresses.

**Outerwear:** If students desire to wear an “outerwear” garment in the school (not a coat that they are wearing to school that is then stored in their locker or on their hooks for the day, but for instance a sweatshirt that they may wear in class over their regular dress clothes) they will need to wear one of any solid color (just as the shirt rule). Hoodies, fleece jackets, sweatshirts or sweaters are all acceptable. RLS logo is NOT required, but other logos or designs are NOT permitted. Exceptions will be made for “vintage” RLS spirit wear.

**Makeup:** Girls may wear light mascara or cover up. Makeup should not be reapplied during the school day.

**Dress Down Days:** Dress Down Day is simply a day that our students can choose to wear clothing that is not designed to be part of the general dress code during the rest of the week. We ask that students strive to maintain a neat, clean, and well-groomed appearance in the Dress Down Day choices.

**Shirts:** T shirts are acceptable with or without logos as long as any logo is deemed appropriate for school wear. Sleeveless shirts for girls in warmer weather are permissible as long as they have material between the neckline and arm at least “three fingers” wide (no “spaghetti straps”), and are form-fitting around the armpit area. Racerback tanks or T-shaped back tanks are not allowed. No plunging or scooped necklines. No see through or meshed material.

**Pants/shorts/skirts/skorts:** Should be of modest length. Garments should fit properly and not be tight fitting. Athletic cut shorts are permitted as long as they are modestly fit. Leggings/jeggings/tights/workout pants/yoga pants can only be worn under shorts, skirts, or dresses.

**Outerwear:** Same as regular dress code above with the addition that they need not be of a solid color and that appropriate logos are permitted on dress down days.

**Special Event Dress Code:** Boys should wear navy pants or shorts, a white collared shirt (short or long sleeved) tucked into pants. A belt should be worn in pants have belt loops. Girls should wear navy pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, or jumpers with white collared shirts.

**PE Dress Code:** Middle School students will follow the PE dress code outlined in the general guidelines in the Student Handbook on their prescribed PE day. If there is more than one PE day a week, students will be informed which day will be prescribed PE uniform day and which will not.

**Consequences:** The following will occur if dress guidelines are violated:

1. On the first offense, the student will be issued a written warning that must be taken home and signed by a parent and returned to school. At the principal’s discretion, the student may be asked to phone home for another item of clothing or one may be provided by the school.
2. On the second offense, the student will be sent to the school office where he/she will remain until a parent can be contacted and an appropriate item of clothing brought for the student.
3. Subsequent offenses will result in a conference between the principal and the parents to review and identify the problem and help find an appropriate solution.