



## 2024-2025 DRESS CODE POLICY for Berkeley Hills & Wexford Campuses

*"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?"*

*1 Corinthians 6:19*

*"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."*

*1 Timothy 4:12*

**The goal of Eden's dress policy is to honor God through our appearance as we represent our school, our families, and our community. It is expected that parents and students join with us in honoring God in this manner.**

### **Shirts/Sweatshirts**

All tops, including shirts, sweaters, jerseys, sweatshirts, or blouses must meet the following requirements:

- Sleeveless shirts and blouses are allowed, but only under the condition that the width of solid cloth that covers each shoulder is a minimum of three inches wide. (In other words, the width of the shoulder of the shirt or blouse must be the width of an index card or one's hand.)
- Bare midriff must not be exposed at any time, including when arms are lifted over head or student is bending at the waist.
- Necklines in the front cannot be lower than one hand below the sternal-notch, and the back of the top must not be lower than two inches below the top of the spine.
- Tops of any kind must not be form fitting. Bodysuits are not an acceptable form of top.
- Bra straps, cami straps and undergarments should not be visible.
- Outline of undergarments should not be visible due to form fitting tops/shorts/pants or thin tops.
- Camis worn under thin or see-through shirts must have straps that are a minimum of two fingers wide (approximately 1 inch thick.)

These requirements must be met for all tops: lace, sheer materials, thin, or see-through material does not "count" toward coverage. Layering is expected to meet the standards as described above.

No offensive/inappropriate or secular musical groups, offensive language, offensive pictures, or offensive words are permitted on any shirt. These styles will be determined at the discretion of Eden Christian Academy.

### **Pants**

- Pants should generally be neat and loose fitting. Undergarments or skin must not be exposed at any time, including when arms are lifted overhead or when a student is bending at the waist. Pants with holes that expose skin are not acceptable. Students may wear leggings under pants with holes to keep skin from being exposed. Holes should not be excessive or draw attention. This will be determined at the discretion of Eden Christian Academy.
- Sweatpants and wind pants are permitted.
- Yoga pants, Jeggings, or leggings are not acceptable. Leggings do not qualify as pants. You may wear leggings under a tunic (longer shirt) as long as when they raise their hands above their head or bend to the floor their bottom is not visible.
- If the pants are so tight that there is no stretch, meaning the material has no give to it, then the pants are out of dress code.
- No lettering or pictures on the backside of any pants, skirts, shorts, etc.

### **Skirts/Dresses/Shorts**

- Girls may wear skirts that are no shorter than three inches above the top of the knee cap. Slits in skirts must not be higher than mid-thigh. Leggings may be worn under a skirt, but the skirt must be no shorter than three inches above the top of the knee cap.
- Golf shorts (loose-fitting, longer pocketed dress shorts), cargo shorts, and athletic shorts are acceptable. Form fitting shorts (such as bike shorts) are not permitted. Shorts should be no shorter than 3" inches above the top of the knee cap.
- No lettering or pictures on the backside of any pants, skirts, shorts, etc.

### **Skorts**

- Skorts (shorts with a panel in front) are permitted. Skorts must be no shorter than 3" above the top of the knee cap.
- No large graphic lettering on back of shorts/skorts.

## Shoes

- Tennis shoes are recommended and must be worn on Gym class days.
- Sandals, crocs, and clogs are permissible but must have a secured heel.
- Girls' high heels must be two inches or lower with a secured heel.
- "Heelies" are not permitted.

## Hair

- Boys' hair should not cover the eyebrows in front. The cut must also be so that the student's face is clearly visible. If a student does not meet the standard, they will be notified that they have until the following Monday to have their hair cut. A student not meeting the requirement after this time will remain in in-school suspension until their hair meets the handbook standards.
- Hairstyles that "make a statement" by their color or unusual nature are not permitted. These styles will be determined at the discretion of Eden Christian Academy. If a student is uncertain about a hairstyle or color, he or she should discuss the choice with the principal beforehand.

## Jewelry

- Pierced ears for girls are the only acceptable piercing.

## Other

- Coats and outerwear may not be worn inside the building unless permission provided by administration.
- **No hoods or hats or bandanas may be worn inside the building during the school day.** The hood of a sweatshirt should remain down throughout the school day.
- Clothing traditionally worn as pajamas, or have the traditional look of pajamas, are not permitted.
- Clothing is not to be excessively tight.
- No flip flops or tongs are permitted at both elementary campuses.

## Holiday Dress Code Guidelines

Eden Christian Academy respects the right of parents to celebrate the holidays of Halloween, Christmas, and Easter with their families as they wish. Within the school program, however, the following principles will serve as our school guidelines and we ask that the following holiday symbols not be worn or brought to school:

**Halloween:** ECA emphasizes a harvest theme at this time of year and His provision. The traditional Halloween themes and symbols including witches, bats, monsters, zombies, ghosts, death, superstition, and fear will be de-emphasized.

*In general, plain pumpkins, stalks of wheat, candy corn, leaves, and displays of produce and the like are acceptable harvest symbols.*

**Christmas:** ECA treats this holiday as a joyous time of the year to enthusiastically celebrate and emphasize the birth of Jesus Christ. Activities and symbols which compliment these emphases are prominent in our classrooms. Myths and symbols such as Santa Claus, elves, or reindeer, etc. which compete with these are de-emphasized.

*The Nativity, snowmen, snowflakes, Christmas trees, Christmas lights, penguins, gingerbread men/ houses, candy canes, etc., are acceptable.*

**Easter:** ECA treats this holiday as a joyous time of the year to enthusiastically celebrate and emphasize His resurrection. Activities and symbols which compliment these emphases are prominent in our classrooms.

*Spring related items including flowers, cross, lambs, chicks, eggs, etc. are acceptable.*

## Dress Code Policy Enforcement

Parents are responsible to see that their children are dressed properly for school according to the dress policy.

Teachers/administrators will monitor student dress daily. If a student is found to be out of dress code:

1. Parents will be notified to bring in a change of clothing (or the student will be asked to wear clothing that may be available in the office).
2. A conference with parent, student, and staff will be expected if three episodes occur.
3. The Dress Policy should be followed at all school sponsored events.

Where personal differences arise over any portion of the dress policy, the final decision will be based on the discretion of the school administration.