



EDEN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

2024-2025 UPPER SCHOOL DRESS CODE

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?" - Corinthians 6:19

"Be careful, however, that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak." - I Corinthians 8:9

"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." I 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 would join with us in honoring God in this manner. Eden's dress policy also serves to benefit the academic environment and equip students for the future by holding them to standards of dress - a requirement in numerous professional settings.

The dress code 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.

Shirts/Sweatshirts

Students may wear:

- Fold-down collars
- Turtleneck collars
- Golf shirts (long or short sleeves)
- Crew-neck shirts-plain, patterned, screen printed or striped
- Sweaters (not form fitting)
- Athletic sweatshirts or jerseys
- Modest V-necks and scoop necks (Necklines cannot be lower than one hand below sternal-notch or show any cleavage.)
- Button-down shirts or blouses

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

1. 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.)
2. Bare midriff must not be exposed at any time, including when arms are lifted over head or student is bending at the waist.
3. Necklines in the front cannot be lower than one hand below the sternal-notch or show any cleavage, and the back of the top must not be lower than two inches below the top of the spine.
4. Tops of any kind must not be form fitting. Bodysuits are not an acceptable form of top.
5. Bra straps, Cami straps and undergarments should not be visible.
6. Outline of undergarments should not be visible due to form fitting tops/shorts/pants or thin tops.
7. 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.



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- Yoga pants, Jeggings, or leggings are not acceptable. Leggings do not qualify as pants.
- 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

- 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.

Shorts

- Golf shorts (loose-fitting, longer pocketed dress shorts), cargo shorts, and athletic shorts are acceptable. Shorts should be no shorter than three inches above the top of the knee cap.
- No lettering or pictures on the backside of any pants, skirts, shorts, etc.

Shoes

- Tennis shoes are permitted
- Sandals are permissible
- Girls' high heels must be three inches or lower

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 Dean of Students beforehand.

Jewelry

- Pierced ears for girls are the only acceptable piercing.

Other

- No hoods, hats, or bandannas may be worn during the school day. The hood of a sweatshirt should remain down throughout the school day.
- Clothing is not to be excessively tight.
- Clothing traditionally worn as pajamas, or have the traditional look of pajamas, are not permitted.
- Tattoos should be covered and/or should not "make a statement." Decisions regarding tattoos will be determined at the discretion of Eden Christian Academy.

Evening Wear

Modesty is encouraged. Strapless dresses, halters or those with spaghetti straps will be allowed only for high school girls (grades 9-12). Girls in middle school **MUST** have a strap of at least one inch on their dresses, and are not permitted to wear body-contoured dresses. **Lace, sheer material, tulle, thin or see-through material does not count as coverage.** All guidelines pertain to the solid fabric of the dress.

- Neckline cannot be lower than one hand below the sternal-notch or show any cleavage.
- The solid fabric of the dress cannot be skin tone or beige.
- The solid fabric of the dress should not be shorter than 3 inches above the knee.
- The midriff must not be exposed, including "cut-outs" of any kind.
- The solid fabric of the dress must cover the back below the shoulder blades.
- The dress cannot be skin tight.
- All girls must try on their chosen dresses before attending a dance. The designated adult coordinator of the dance will inform the girls if their dresses are acceptable or must be replaced by an acceptable dress.