

Southside Christian School

2008-2009 Dress Code

INTRODUCTION

The issue of dress code is mentioned in Scriptures in terms of principles, and a Christian dress code is approached from a “spiritual” source as it relates to biblical principles. However, these underlying spiritual principles are usually not the matter of debate. Disagreements and opinions are more frequently related to institutional dress guidelines that a school chooses to enforce. Individual Christian schools, equally committed to the Scriptures, may have different dress preferences for their respective faculty and students, notwithstanding numerous perceptions and opinions that participating families and churches contribute to the issue. Each institution has its own dress guide to best accomplish its specific mission.

Parents and administrators of SCS desire to present a Christian lifestyle in all facets of the school’s ministry. This includes the area of dress, and there is an appropriate way to dress for school at SCS. The school’s dress code should be upheld by both the home and the school, not to be the responsibility of SCS only.

Appearance and dress of SCS students should not conflict with the values of the school. Since clothing influences mentality, the dress requirement of SCS supports the school’s overall spiritual environment. Modesty, neatness, appropriateness, respect and gender distinctiveness are the fundamentals of the dress code regardless of the current standards and tastes of society. The administration reserves the right to determine the validity of any article of clothing.

1st – 6th GRADES

The following persons may be contacted for answers concerning the dress code for first grade:

Mrs. Harriett Neal 234-7575 ext 1549 hneal@southsidechristian.org

Mrs. Jo Dillard 234-7575 ext 1346 jdillard@southsidechristian.org

The following persons may be contacted for answers concerning the dress code for 2nd-6th Grade:

Mrs. Sherri Broyles 234-7575 ext 1616 sbroyles@southsidechristian.org

Dr. Susan Tucker 234-7575 ext 1307 stucker@southsidechristian.org

GUIDELINES FOR YOUNG MEN:

- Clothing should not be too tight or overly baggy and may not have holes or frays.
- In order to help ensure safety, students in grades K4-6 are required to wear the field trip apparel for all field trips. Field trip apparel includes a short or long sleeved t-shirt and a hoodie. The field trip hoodie may be worn on cold days as no outer coats will be allowed. Students who don’t have the field trip apparel on the day of the field trip will be required to purchase needed items from the Sabre Shop. This will be charged to the student’s school account. Please contact the LS office if the Sabre Shop is closed.
- Pants, jeans or modest shorts (no shorter than the top of the knee) may be worn. Athletic or beach wear and camouflage clothing are not permitted.
- Collared or button-down Henley style shirts may be worn, and all shirts must have sleeves. There should be no emblems, images or wording, with the exception of a small logo.
- Athletic style shirts such as under armor, jerseys etc. are not permitted during normal class hours.
- Emblems and wording on any outer garment may represent only SCS or a college or university, except for small company/branding logos.

- Official SCS apparel sold by the Sabre Shop may be worn.
- For grades 1 – 6, shoes and sandals must have a heel-strap closure. Heelies and skate shoes are not allowed.
- Hats are not permitted in the school building except in the gym during athletic events after school.
- Hair must be neatly trimmed. The top of the collar, ears and eyebrows must be visible.
- Extreme hairstyles and colors are not permitted.
- No jewelry may be worn in a body piercing.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted.

GUIDELINES FOR YOUNG LADIES:

- Clothing should not be too tight or overly baggy and may not have holes or frays.
- In order to help ensure safety, students in grades K4-6 are required to wear the field trip apparel for all field trips. Field trip apparel includes a short or long sleeved t-shirt and a hoodie. The field trip hoodie may be worn on cold days as no outer coats will be allowed. Students who don't have the field trip apparel on the day of the field trip will be required to purchase needed items from the Sabre Shop. This will be charged to the student's school account. Please contact the LS office if the Sabre Shop is closed.
- Pants, jeans, modest shorts, skorts or skirts (no shorter than the top of the knee) may be worn. Athletic or beach wear and camouflage clothing are not permitted.
- Modest dresses no shorter than the top of the knee may be worn, and dresses must have sleeves.
- Shirts must have a crew neck or collar and sleeves. The A bare midriff is not allowed. There should be no emblems, images or wording, with the exception of a small logo.
- Emblems and wording on any outer garment may represent only SCS or a college or university, except for small company/branding logos.
- Official SCS apparel sold by the Sabre Shop may be worn.
- For grades 1 – 6, shoes and sandals must have a heel-strap closure. Heelies and skate shoes are not allowed.
- Hats are not permitted in the school building except in the gym during athletic events after school.
- Extreme hairstyles and colors are not permitted.
- Jewelry worn in a body piercing is limited to the ears.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY DRESS:

All guidelines listed above apply for extracurricular activities (including athletic events at home or away) with the following variations:

- Shorts must be no higher than mid-thigh.
- Midriffs and backs must be properly covered at all times.
- Sleeveless tops are permitted, but halter, spaghetti straps or tank tops are not allowed.
- Loose fitting sweatpants or bib overalls are permitted.

All students must adhere to the dress code at all school functions, extracurricular activities and while on school property. Faculty members will be present to help enforce these guidelines. If you have questions, please contact the Lower School Office for answers.

UPPER SCHOOL 7-12TH GRADES

The following persons may be contacted for answers concerning the dress code:

Girls (Grades 7-12) – Mrs. Vivian Welkner 234-7575, ext 1364/vwelkner@southsidechristian.org

Boys (Grades 7-12) – Mr. Nick Theaux 234-7575, ext 1335/ntbeaux@southsidechristian.org

Upper School (Grades 7-12) – Mr. Bob Jones 234-7575, ext 1357/bjones@southsidechristian.org

GUIDELINES FOR YOUNG MEN:

- Clothing should not be too tight or overly baggy and may not have holes or frays.
- Pants or modest knee-length walking shorts may be worn, and undergarments should never be visible to the public (i.e. boxers showing as a result of pants worn inappropriately). Jeans, athletic or beach wear and camouflage clothing are not permitted.
- Belts may not have studs or spikes.
- Collared or button-down Henley style shirts may be worn, and all shirts must have sleeves. There should be no emblems, images or wording, with the exception of a small logo. All shirts must be tucked in at all times.
- Athletic style shirts such as under armor, jerseys etc. are not permitted during normal class hours.
- Emblems and wording on any outer garments (including sweatshirts) may represent only SCS or a college or university educational institution; except for small company/branding logos.
- Official SCS apparel sold by the Sabre Shop may be worn.
- Neat and appropriate footwear is required
- Hats are not permitted in the school building except in the gym during athletic events after school.
- Hair must be neatly trimmed as not to conceal the top of the collar, ears and eyebrows
- Extreme hairstyles and colors are not permitted.
- Students must be clean shaven and sideburns must not be lower than the bottom of the ear.
- No jewelry may be worn in a body piercing.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted.

GUIDELINES FOR YOUNG LADIES:

- Clothing should not be too tight or overly baggy and may not have holes or frays.
- Materials that cling, such as polyester, knit, spandex and lycra, are not permitted.
- Modest pants or modest knee-length walking shorts may be worn. Jeans, athletic or beach wear and camouflage clothing are not permitted.
- Belts may not have studs or spikes.
- Modest dresses, skirts and capris may be worn as long as the hem line is no shorter than the top of the knee while wither sitting or standing. Slits in skirts or dresses must also be no shorter than the top of the knee while sitting or standing. Dresses must have sleeves.
- Shirts must be oxford, polo, crew neck or turtleneck style with sleeves. There should be no emblems, images or wording with the exception of a possible small logo. At least one shirt must be tucked in at all times with only the top button unbuttoned.
- All tops and dresses must fit properly by being loose fitting across the chest, showing no cleavage.
- All undershirts must be crew neck style.
- Knit tops and sweaters that tie at the chest area are not permitted.
- See-through blouses are not permitted.
- Emblems and wording on any outer garments (including sweatshirts) may represent only SCS or a college or university educational institution, except for small company/branding logos.
- Official SCS apparel sold by the Sabre Shop may be worn.
- Neat and appropriate footwear is required.

- Hats are not permitted in the school building except in the gym during athletic events after school.
- Extreme hairstyles and colors are not permitted.
- Jewelry worn in a body piercing is limited to the ears.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY DRESS

All guidelines listed above apply for extracurricular activities (including athletic events at home or away) with the following variations:

- Shorts must be no higher than mid-thigh.
- Shirts do not need to be tucked in, but midriffs and backs must be properly covered at all times.
- Sleeveless tops are permitted, but halter, spaghetti straps or tank tops are not allowed.
- Jeans, loose fitting sweatpants or bib overalls are permitted.

GUIDELINES FOR SEMI-FORMAL EVENTS:

(NHS, NJHS, Beta Club Inductions, Fine Arts Concert, Senior Trip, and Graduation)

Young Ladies – Semi-formal wear is defined as apparel dressier than school clothing, but not as elegant as formal dress. Sleeveless, modest dresses or skirts that are tea-length or to the top of the knees are appropriate. Blouses or tops must not have spaghetti straps, fit tightly or show cleavage. A dressier sandal or closed shoe is suitable, but no flip flops (adorned or unadorned) are allowed.

Young Men – Semi-formal, defined as apparel dressier than school clothing, includes a long-sleeved dress shirt, tie and dress slacks. A sport coat is also appropriate, but not required. Dark shoes or dress shoes are proper, but athletic shoes or sandals are not permitted.

All students must adhere to the dress code at all school functions, extracurricular activities and while on school property. Faculty members will be present to help enforce these guidelines. If you have questions, please contact the Upper School Office for answers.

DRESS CODE CONCLUSION

While SCS acknowledges that the dress code is institutional preference and thus not optional, the school appreciates the conscious efforts of parents to keep the dress code from becoming a major issue. Commitment to the dress code is implied by both registering at SCS and by signing the required Parent-School Covenant. It is unacceptable for the educational process of teachers and other students to be interrupted by a student's failure to adhere to the dress code. Students are to abide by the SCS dress code, and parents are expected to monitor compliance before their children leave home. Students arriving at school dressed improperly may not be permitted to attend class until they change clothes, and this may require a parent to bring a change of clothes. The SCS administration has the final decision as to the correctness of dress.