



# WCS STANDARD OF DRESS 2024–2025

*New or revised elements for 2024–2025 have been highlighted in gold.*

## Philosophy

The purpose of a dress code is to reinforce a positive educational atmosphere, free from undue distraction, and to foster school identity and a unified spirit among the student body. By joining the WCS community, parents and students agree to willingly forgo their own personal fashion and style preferences during the school day in exchange for the benefits and blessings of being a positive member of the WCS learning community.

Neat, modest, and appropriate clothing encourages good conduct, healthy interactions, and a sense of Christian community. WCS believes that each student is created in the image of God and, therefore, is expected to present himself or herself (including manner of dress) in accordance with their God-given biological sex at birth.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that their students follow the WCS Standard of Dress and are expected to support the school's efforts to hold students to the spirit and specifics of the agreed standard. When in doubt, students or parents should ask the Dean of Students or Principal for clarification before wearing an item. The WCS administration holds the authority to make specific and individual determinations regarding the Standard of Dress.

## Types of Dress

**“Regular Dress”** is our dress code for a typical school day. Specifics are below.

**“Event Dress”** would include on-campus or off-campus concerts, performances, field trips, special events, etc. Details for these will be communicated to students in advance.

**“Warrior Wear Days”** are when students wear WCS gear and spirit wear along with jeans or sweatpants. Aside from these WCS items, students should follow the “Dress Down Day” guidelines.

**“Theme Days”** are special days when students are encouraged to wear costumes and creative outfits that reflect the theme of the day (for example, “Superhero Day” or “1950s Day”). All clothing must be modest and appropriate, safe, and allow for clear vision, breathing, and ease of movement.

**“Dress Down Days”** are special days when students can wear jeans, sweatpants, t-shirts, and sweatshirts. Leggings (spandex, etc.) may only be worn under dresses or skirts. All clothing must be modest and appropriate, must fit properly, must be free from rips and stains, and must not be overtly distracting to the educational setting of WCS.

## Expectations for Regular Dress:

1. The WCS standard of dress is to be worn by students during all school hours.

2. Lands' End is WCS's exclusive clothing provider. Uniforms from previous vendors purchased from the WCS Uniform Store are still permissible.
3. Students may wear black or tan long pants that are not Lands' End brand. The pants should be khaki style. Students may not wear cargo pants, pants with hems gathered at the ankle, or pants with patchwork pockets (for example, tan jeans). Elementary School students may wear sweatpants during recess only. Upper School students may not wear shorts or skorts as part of the school uniform.
4. Students may wear WCS Warrior Wear, including WCS hoodies and fleeces, WCS light jackets, and the WCS logo flannel shirt, but not t-shirts (long or short-sleeved) or sweatpants.
5. No other outerwear (coats, jackets, etc.) may be worn inside during the school day.
6. If a WCS light jacket, buttoned sweater, or zipper fleece is worn, a uniform polo or dress shirt must be worn underneath it.
7. If a dress shirt is worn, it must be appropriately buttoned. Dress shirts are to be tucked in when worn with a tie.
8. Plain white, black, or red short-sleeved or long-sleeved undershirts may be worn under approved uniform apparel. No wording or symbols on the undershirt may be visible. All undershirts must be tucked in and not visible below the uniform shirt. The midriff should be covered at all times.
9. Hats or other head coverings should not be worn inside the school building. Sweatshirt hoods must remain down.
10. Girls' Skirts: Girls' skirts must be Lands' End brand, chosen from one of the styles offered on the Lands' End website for Wilmington Christian School. Skirts must fit correctly. Girl's skirts may not exceed 4 inches above the kneecap when standing (front and back).
11. Accessories: Belts, socks, hair bands, etc., are optional and may be purchased elsewhere. They should complement the uniform and be red, black, white, brown, gold, or silver (no colors or patterns that "clash").
12. Footwear: Dress shoes, dress sandals, sneakers, "cros" (Upper School only), clogs, and boots are the only acceptable footwear. Footwear that is not permitted includes flip-flops (defined as open-backed shoes, consisting of a Y-strap that connects at the toes), sports sandals ("slides"), slippers (including moccasins and fur/fleece trimmed), and shoes with wheels. All Lower School students must wear footwear with a back or strap.
13. Socks: If worn, socks must be solid colors of red, black, white, or tan (no patterns or colors that "clash").
14. Hair: Hairstyles and colors that are extreme, unnatural, or distracting (as determined by the WCS administration) are not permitted. Hair must be neat and well-kept and must remain out of the face and eyes throughout the day. (New for 2024–2025).
15. Piercings: Girls' piercing is limited to the ears only and may not include gauges. If piercings already exist in non-ear locations, no "rings" or metal post earrings may be worn, only clear spacers. Lower School and Middle School Boys may not wear earrings during school hours or at school functions and may not get ear piercings until High School. High School Boys' piercing is limited to the ears only and may not include gauges.