

# Dress Code

## Henrico County Public Schools

Henrico County Public Schools understand that most students dress appropriately and safely for school. We rely on students and their parents to exercise judgment in promoting modesty, decency, and a sense of decorum so as not to offend any members of our school community. School climate has a direct influence on student achievement, and the manner in which we dress is a significant factor in school climate.

In an effort to assist you as you make these decisions, and in compliance with School Board Policy, our schools have a Dress Code. The Dress Code is intended to contribute to an appropriate, safe and secure learning environment for all students. Students must be dressed modestly and in a manner that neither offends nor distracts their peers or disturbs the learning environment. In support of the Code of Conduct Dress Code, a student's appearance that is considered disruptive, distracting, or hazardous is prohibited.

***The administration of each elementary, middle and high school reserves the right to modify the dress code for spirit days and other school celebrations, as trends change, as particular items pose a disruption, or as other circumstances warrant.***

### Elementary School Dress Code

1. Hats, sweatbands, or other head coverings may not be worn unless required for religious reasons, cultural observations, or medical reasons.
2. Sunglasses are prohibited unless prescribed by a physician.
3. Clothing must provide appropriate coverage. That would prohibit all tank, halter, and tube tops or clothing that resembles undergarments or exposes the midriff.
4. Shorts, skirts, and dresses must reach mid-thigh.
5. Pants and shorts that are too tight, expose undergarments, or sag low are not permitted. Belts must be worn to hold pants and shorts in place.
6. Messages on clothing, chains, jewelry and personal belongings that pertain to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, gangs, vulgarity or that could lead to a disruptive learning environment may not be worn.
7. Pajamas and/or loungewear are inappropriate for elementary school.
8. Bedroom slippers, high heels, roller sneakers, and flip-flops are prohibited. Athletic shoes or closed shoes with a rubber sole are encouraged daily and should be worn for Physical Education and recess.

***Dress code decisions will be made at the discretion of the elementary administrative team. Parents of students who violate the dress code will be contacted to provide appropriate clothing for their child, if necessary.***

### Middle School Dress Code

1. Hats, head coverings, hoods, bandanas, do-rags and scarves may not be worn inside a school building. Combs, hair picks, wave caps, large combs, brushes, and rollers are not permitted.
2. Non-prescriptive sunglasses should not be worn inside buildings.
3. Dresses, skirts, shorts and other similar garments cannot be any shorter than mid-thigh even when worn with leggings or tights.
4. Clothing which contains inappropriate messages that could lead to a disruptive learning environment may not be worn.
5. Torn, ripped, or slashed clothing may not be worn.
6. Beachwear and sleepwear may not be worn.
7. Bedroom slippers, wheelies or shoes with wheels are not permitted.
8. Spiked jewelry, chains, and items which could cause a disruptive learning environment or student injury may not be worn.
9. Absolutely no undergarments should be showing at any time.

10. Shirts and tops must be long enough to cover the midriff and back at all times – this includes while standing and sitting.
11. Pants must not be worn below the hips at any time and must be appropriately worn and secured above the buttocks. Biker shorts, cut-off jeans and cut-off sweat pants are not allowed.
12. All clothing should be worn as designed (buttoned, zippered) with no towels, shirts or shorts draped around the neck. Waistbands on shorts and skirts may not be rolled up.
13. Garments that are excessively tight or skimpy, including those with plunging necklines, see-through or revealing clothing, tube tops, halter-tops, or spaghetti straps may not be worn. Female tops must be at least two inches wide at the shoulder. T-shirts must be worn under athletic jerseys.
14. Depending on school design and administrative determination, no outer garments will be worn in the building during the school day. These items will instead be secured in the student's locker or other appropriate location during the school day.

***Dress code decisions will be made at the discretion of the middle school administrative team.***

***Students who violate the dress code will face disciplinary consequences. All middle schools will follow these disciplinary guidelines:***

***1<sup>st</sup> Offense - Warning with opportunity to change clothes or correct dress code violation***

***2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Parent notification***

***3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Administrative after-school detention***

***4<sup>th</sup> Offense – In-school suspension***

***Continued infractions could result in out-of-school suspension***

## **High School Dress Code**

1. Hats, head coverings, hoods, bandanas, do-rags and scarves may not be worn inside a school building.
2. Dresses, skirts, shorts and other similar garments may not be worn above the mid-thigh.
3. Clothing which contains inappropriate messages that could lead to a disruptive learning environment may not be worn.
4. Torn, ripped, or slashed clothing may not be worn.
5. Beachwear and sleepwear (including slippers) may not be worn.
6. Spiked jewelry, chains, and items which could cause student injury may not be worn.
7. Absolutely no undergarments should be showing at any time.
8. Shirts and tops must be long enough to cover the midriff and back at all times – this includes while standing and sitting.
9. Pants must not be worn below the hips at any time.
10. Garments that are excessively tight or skimpy, including those with plunging necklines, see-through or revealing clothing, tube tops, halter-tops, or spaghetti straps may not be worn. Female tops must be at least two inches wide at the shoulder.

***Dress code decisions will be made at the discretion of the high school administrative team.***

***Students who violate the dress code will face disciplinary consequences. All high schools will follow the guidelines below:***

***1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Warning with opportunity to change clothes or correct dress code violation***

***2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Saturday detention***

***3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – 1 day OSS***