

The ACS dress code is intended to reflect principles of good taste and modesty. Students should dress in a way that neither dishonors God nor draws undue attention to themselves. (I Tim 2:9; I Cor 10:31; I John 2:15-17)

The dress standards which follow are intended as expressions of those principles. They are not designed to promote legalism nor regimentation. Within the guidelines there is sufficient latitude for individual expression and taste. However, fads or extremes of any kind in dress or hairstyles are not acceptable and will require corrective action by the administration. Any writing or emblems that are offensive or antagonistic to the values and beliefs of ACS, as determined by the administration, will not be allowed. Sloppy or “grubby” clothing will not be permitted.

It is the parents’ responsibility to see that their student is dressed properly for school before leaving home each day. If a student is out of dress code, he/she will be required to change to meet the dress code policy in order to return to classes for the day.

The dress code of ACS is to be observed each day during the school year and for participants in school programs, performances outside school, field trips, etc. unless specific permission has been given by the office.

If any staff member deems a student immodest or out of code in any way, the student must correct the issue immediately or will be sent to the office for correction. Students are responsible for submitting on-time all assignments that are due while out of class for dress code correction. Students are responsible for completing any course work done in class by the end of the day. (Students will not be given additional time to complete work assigned while out of class.) Students must be dressed appropriately to be issued final exams.

2023-2024 GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Acceptable academic day attire:

- a. Pants: modest fit dress pants, joggers (with the exception of sweats material), or jeans with no holes. Legging pants may be worn with a top that reaches the end of a student’s fingertips while standing.
- b. Dresses and skirts that reach the mid-thigh while standing
- c. Shorts: modest fit dress, cargo, hiking, or denim with no holes that reach the end of a student’s fingertips while standing.
- d. Shirts: collared, button-down, sweatshirts, pullover, t-shirt
- e. Shoes: dress shoes, gym shoes, sandals, or boots

2. Restricted academic day attire:

- a. Sleeveless tops/dresses, immodest fit; see-through; exposed skin (even when arms are raised); cleavage-revealing
- b. Clothing/bags that displays secular artists, skulls, skeletons, weapons, or offensive/inappropriate material
- c. Sweats*, spandex, yoga pants, athletic shorts* (*Allowed for Spirit Fridays)
- d. Shoes with wheels in soles; slippers; socks only; barefeet
- e. Hats or headwear, including a raised hood or sweatband
- f. Chains, spikes or jewelry indicating group affiliation may not be worn at school or at any school function

- g. Chains, spikes or jewelry considered potentially harmful (i.e. - wallet chains, spiked rings or necklace, etc.)

3. Acceptable Spirit Friday attire:

- a. All acceptable academic day attire
- b. WITH ACS-wear visible on top:
 - i. Athletic shorts / sweat shorts that reach the end of a student's fingertips while standing.
 - ii. Sweatpants

4. Acceptable activity day attire: (Class outings, Spirit Week Friday, Senior Trip, Mission Impossible)

- a. All acceptable academic day attire
- b. Modest tank tops (at faculty discretion)
- c. Athletic shorts that reach the end of a student's fingertips while standing.
- d. Sweatpants

5. Formal event attire:

The most difficult task for administration is the determination of modesty, which is often at odds with cultural fashion trends. Please, do not put the administration in a difficult position. We do not want to cause any embarrassment by having to notify a student who arrives at an event that their attire is inappropriate. Modesty is a somewhat subjective interpretation, but one we have a duty to uphold. Formal event dress code guidelines must be followed by all attendees at events (both current ACS students and off-campus guests).

- a. Attire should reflect a formal family occasion (like a wedding) rather than a night on the town or evening at a club
- b. Dresses that are too revealing, exposing midriffs or cleavage, or are too short in length are not appropriate (anything shorter than mid-thigh)
- c. To avoid confusion or issues at an event, administration is willing to pre-approve outfits based on a picture of the student in the outfit

BOYS

Appearance Standards

1. Hair should be clean, well groomed, not extreme (tall mohawks, spikes, etc.), away from the eyes.
2. Boys' facial hair is to be neat and well-groomed at all times. No shaggy or unkempt appearance will be allowed. Compliance will be determined by the administration.
3. Nail color, body mutilations, or body piercings (including any magnetic jewelry and gauges) other than ear piercings, or small nose studs, are not permitted for boys. Inappropriate tattoos or brands must be covered throughout the school day and whenever attending school functions or activities.

GIRLS

Appearance Standards

1. Hair should be clean, well groomed, not extreme (tall mohawks, spikes, etc.), and away from the eyes.
2. Body mutilations or body piercings (including any magnetic jewelry and gauges) other than ear piercings or small nose studs, are not permitted for girls. Inappropriate tattoos or brands must be covered throughout the school day and whenever attending school functions or activities.