

## **DRESS AND GROOMING**

A person's character and relationship with God are reflected in **all** aspects of his/her life (including dress). Clothing is **immodest** if by its style, cut, coloration, or fit, it hinders others from looking at the wearer's face. God wants His character to be communicated to others through the countenance of Christians. Clothes and hairstyles should simply be the frame to the character of the face, not a distraction from it.

Even though we are more concerned about matters of the heart than outward appearance, we firmly believe that a person's appearance is a reflection of his/her inner being. Christians should especially be sensitive to **MODESTY** and appropriateness in attire. Because times and styles change, it is difficult to determine what the trends will be from one year to the next. Sometimes, even Christian young people can be caught up in styles that represent philosophies and lifestyles that are not Christ-like. Therefore, clothing and grooming that are questionable in regard to modesty or appropriateness are prohibited. If in the opinion of any faculty member or Administrator, a student is not dressed appropriately, they will be subject to disciplinary action. The administration will serve as the final authority in all dress and grooming matters.

### **A. SHIRTS, BLOUSES, ETC.**

1. Traditional shirts, blouses, and sweaters are acceptable school wear.
2. Shirts must have at least traditional length short sleeves. Muscle shirts and tank tops are not permitted.
3. Girls' shoulder and back areas must be covered; low-cut necklines are not acceptable.
4. Blouses, shirts, etc., must be of a length that does not expose the back or stomach at any time.
5. Shirts are required on campus at all times, including athletic practice and events.
1. Clothing with objectionable wording or graphics are not allowed.

### **B. PANTS, DRESSES, SHORTS, ETC.**

2. **Pants and jeans must be neat (not shredded),** and not skin tight. Baggy and sloppy pants are not allowed.
3. Students should not wear pants or shirts with holes. All pants must have a hem.
4. **Spandex, leggings, and tights shall not be worn as outer clothing,**
5. Dresses, skirts and shorts must not exceed two (2) inches above the knee. They must be hemmed, no cut-offs will be acceptable. The Administration requests that the girls in the **fifth through twelfth grade wear "Capri pants"** instead of shorts.
6. **Athletic wear (sweat pants) is not allowed except for PE class.**

### **C. GENDER SPECIFIC STATEMENT**

1. All students shall dress in conformance with one's biological sex.
2. All students shall use restrooms, locker rooms, and changing facilities conforming with one's biological sex.
3. All student athletes shall participate on the team in conformance with one's biological sex.

### **D. CAPS, HEADBANDS, SHOES, ETC.**

1. Caps, hats, etc. are not allowed on campus during school hours (this policy applies to both boys and girls). Caps, when worn after school hours and at school events must be worn appropriately (bill forward). Sweatbands are not allowed.
2. Flip-flops, beach shoes, and shower shoes and similar types of shoes are not allowed.

E. **HAIR AND EARRINGS**

1. Boys' faces must be clean shaven.
2. Boys' hair must be well groomed, must not touch the shirt collar or ear, and must not extend below the eyebrows in the front. Sideburns must be no longer than the bottom of the ear.
3. Hairstyles must not draw undue attention to the individual. This could become disruptive to the learning process. Hair colors must be of natural tones. Colors such as pink, blue, green, purple and red are not allowed. Extreme trends such as dreadlocks, Mohawks and long spiked hair is not acceptable.
4. Pierced ears are acceptable for girls. Boys may not wear earrings. Other body piercing is unacceptable for both boys and girls.

F. **OFF CAMPUS DRESS**

Old Bethel Christian Academy students are expected to maintain standards of cleanliness, modesty, neatness, and good taste both on and off campus.

G. **DRESS CODE ENFORCEMENT**

All dress code policies will be in effect during **official school hours and on the entire campus** (activity classes or special theme days will be the only exceptions). While it is understood that school events (such as athletic contests) are traditionally less formal in dress standards, OBCA reserves the right to address (and discipline if necessary) dress code extremes, which are exhibited at OBCA, sponsored events.

## **DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS**

Dress code compliance is about attitude. We believe that dress standards will be required throughout life. It is our goal to teach compliance and encourage cooperation because it simply is the *right and appropriate course of behavior*. Students who "fight" the system are learning habits that will have negative outcomes on into adulthood. Therefore, **dress code** violations will be addressed as follows:

- **First Violation** - Warning to older students, the younger students parents will be contacted
- **Second Violation** - Call parents to bring appropriate clothing before student is admitted to class
- **Third Violation** - Call parents to pick student up from school for remainder of day with all missed class work being unexcused.