



Dress Code Policy Grades K5 through 8th

A positive appearance along with appropriate dress and grooming help provide a focused academic environment more conducive to learning. Therefore, Bridgeway Christian Academy adheres to a School Uniform Policy for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The two main principles which define our philosophical position with regard to uniforms are **MODESTY** and **NEATNESS**. In addition to promoting these two principles, school uniforms:

- Readily identify the student and the school in the community
- Encourage discipline and responsibility in the life of the student
- Give the student a sense of belonging and identification
- Are practical and economical

Please refer to the **Uniform Requirements Lists** for detailed uniform information and descriptions. This list can be found on the "*Parent's Place*" tab on the school website (www.bridgewayca.org).

Teachers will enforce the discipline systems as it pertains to dress code. Parents are expected to monitor their own child's appearance. Obvious or blatant violations of the dress code may necessitate a student remaining in the office until the parents bring a change of clothing or take the student home until the dress code is met. The resulting absences are unexcused. Areas of subjectivity are left to the discretion of the teachers and administrators.

Students are encouraged to label all uniform items with their name (small and neat).

General Dress Code Requirements

All uniforms must be purchased through one of BCA's approved uniform supplier(s) and comply with the approved list of styles.

Approved uniform suppliers: Uniform Source, Lands' End and our Used Uniform Store

Skirt/Skort Length

- Skirts and skorts may not be more than 3 inches above the knee. *For modesty purposes we ask that girls please wear bike or Softe style shorts beneath skirts*

Shoes

All shoes are to be closed toe with a fully closed heel.

Dress shoes are required for Dress Uniform. Dress shoes should be the following:

- Boys: Leather dress shoes such as bucks, loafers, or Sperrys in brown, black, or navy (**tennis shoe or tennis shoe soles are not allowed**)
- Girls: Flats, Mary Janes, or low heel pump in brown, black, or navy with heels being no higher than 1.5 inches. **Sperrys are not considered a dress shoe for girls.**

Athletic Shoes are permitted in any color. Please see "Shoe Don'ts" for other requirements.

Shoe Don'ts

- No high top athletic shoes
- No wheels, no lights, no glitter or sequins, no characters
- No TOMs in any color
- No UGGS
- No boots
- No clogs
- No sandals/backless shoes

Socks

- **Must be worn everyday** – ankle length, footies, crew and knee socks are acceptable
- Must be solid white, navy, grey, black or khaki. Socks can have a stripe or logo in school colors (ie: white, black, red or navy)
- Girls may wear solid white, navy or gray tights or leggings with uniform skorts/skirts. **No Lace or Trim.**
- **White knee or crew socks must be worn as part of dress uniform for girls in all grades.**

Jeans

When students are allowed to wear jeans to school, i.e. Fridays, special field trips, etc., the jeans must be plain, blue jeans. Blue jeans may be full length or mid-calf and should be standard, conservative, modest, and denim. No tears, sequins, designs, or embellishments of any kind.

Sweatshirts/Hoodies/Fleece

Only BCA uniform and spirit wear sweatshirts and or hoodies may be worn during the school day inside the school building with the exception of the lunchroom. These items are available for purchase through some of our approved uniform providers and the BCA Used Uniform Store.

Outerwear – Jackets, Sweaters, Coats

During cold weather months, the only outerwear permitted in the classroom is the red BCA sweater, uniform approved jacket, or approved BCA team wear. When wearing these items, a uniform shirt must be worn underneath. Non-BCA winter coats may not be worn in the classroom or cafeteria.

Dress for \$2 Days

The first Wednesday of every month is a themed dress up day (ie – PJ day). Students can pay \$2 to dress out of uniform in the assigned theme attire. Middle School students can either wear the theme dress or have a free dress day. At minimum shorts must cover half the quad area. Leggings are not permitted as stand-alone bottoms unless worn with a tunic or dress. Any tunic or dresses worn with leggings must meet the shorts (see above) dress code length requirements. Shoulders must be covered at all times.

Fridays

Students have the privilege to wear “Spirit Wear” or Christian t-shirts and jeans on most Fridays. Students still have the option to wear uniform tops and jeans or full uniform on Friday if they choose. Blue jeans may be full length or mid-calf and should be standard, conservative, modest, and denim. The only shorts that are acceptable are the uniform shorts. Stated shirt and jeans regulations still apply on these days. Students and parents will be notified when dress uniform or school uniform is required on Friday for special events. During winter months, students may wear **Christian/BCA** sweatshirts over their t-shirts.

Dress Uniform

A dress uniform is required for special events such as picture day, Math Olympics, Spelling Bee, Veterans Day Chapel, Easter Chapel, and other events as announced by the administration or the teacher. This uniform may also be worn as part of the standard dress code.

Field Trip Attire

On field trips, we require students wear their red uniform polo along with jeans or an approved uniform bottom unless otherwise instructed by their teacher.

General Appearance

- Personal appearance must be maintained in modesty and good taste.
- Visible body markings (temporary or permanent) will not be permitted.
- **All shirts are to be buttoned and tucked in for 1st – 8th grade.**
- Belts are part of the required uniform for both boys and girls.

Hairstyles - Girls

- Girls' hairstyles should not be distracting. Hair should not cover the eyes or be partially or totally shaved to the skin.
- Hair color should look natural.
- **Hair bows, ribbons, and headbands should be school plaid or matching colors of white, red, or navy and may be patterned (stripes, polka dots, etc.) in these colors. No yellow, green, pink, etc. head bands, please.**

Hairstyles – Boys

- Boys' hair length may not be worn below the eyebrow or over the collar in the back, and half the ear must be visible.
- Hair may not be shaved to the skin.
- Boys' hair cannot be braided, gathered, or adorned with any items.
- Middle school boys should be clean shaven.

Miscellaneous

- Athletic headbands, sweatbands, bandannas, hats, caps, and visors are not to be worn during school hours.
- Conservative and minimal amounts of make-up and/or jewelry may be worn by girls.
- Boys are not to wear earrings at anytime including extracurricular activities on or off campus.
- Girls may not wear earrings that extend more than ½ inch below the lobe and all ear piercing must be confined to the lobe.
- Long sleeve t-shirts in grey, white or navy are permitted during the colder months under the short sleeve polos.

Out of Uniform Guidelines

Knowing that each child is an image-bearer of the Lord, BCA stresses modesty in appearance and dress. Our students are expected to avoid extremes in clothing and hairstyles when they are out of uniform on School campus. Parents are instrumental in helping children look their best and in being considerate of how their appearance affects others. We ask that parents also follow these same guidelines of dressing with modesty, neatness, and discretion when on campus or at a School function or field trip. School administration will make the final decision about what is acceptable or unacceptable if a disagreement should occur.