

# DRESS CODE

## Rationale

The guiding principles for school apparel and personal appearance are modesty, appropriateness and neatness, as well as an alignment with the student's biblical identity in Christ. The MGCS dress code is designed to create an atmosphere that is both conducive to sound educational practices and reflective of modesty and consideration of others.

We acknowledge that many of our dress guidelines do not carry the weight of biblical mandates. As we are an academic institution, many of our requirements are simply traditional good standards for the educational environment. We believe that a degree of professionalism in students' dress and appearance often correlates with higher quality in their work and conduct, and also limits distractions for other students. Our administration reserves the right to assess student compliance or non-compliance with our guiding principles for dress code and personal appearance in all school settings or school sponsored events.

It is also our desire to make dress a non-issue by eliminating the social differences and status symbols that students sometimes associate with clothing and by eliminating the need for staff to make subjective judgments about the appropriateness or inappropriateness of particular articles of clothing. Adherence to our dress code will allow us to move on together to the deeper questions of life and godliness.

## Girl's Dress Code

**Tops:** Kindergarten through 8th grade girls may wear any solid color collared polo shirt with buttons and without a logo. MGCS official t-shirts may be worn any day of the week.

- Only MGCS sweatshirts (sold by MGCS) are approved for classroom or campus wear.
- Any solid color sweater or cardigan without logos and zippers are approved for classroom wear.
- MGCS t-shirts, solid polos, or blouse must be worn under cardigans and MGCS sweatshirts.
- Turtlenecks or under shirts are approved for under the dress code approved shirt.
- Students may have any color/style outer coat, but it may not be worn in the classroom.
- Tops should conceal the midriff area.
- Shirts may not be form fitting.

**Bottoms:** Kindergarten through 8th grade girls may wear pants, shorts, skirts, skorts (K-5<sup>th</sup> only) and capris in navy blue, or khaki. Girls may also wear jeans.

- No sweatpants, athletic, corduroy, leggings, or velour fabrics are allowed.
- Pants should fit appropriately and not be too tight or saggy.
- K-8th graders may only wear the MGCS approved skirts. The approved skirts must be in the appropriate size and fit slightly above the knee in length.
- K-5th graders may only wear the MGCS approved skort. The approved skort must be in the appropriate size and fit slightly above the knee in length.
- K-5th grades may wear jumpers of appropriate length, in khaki or navy blue.
- K-5th grades may wear solid color polo dresses without logo of appropriate length, in any color.
- If a skirt, dress, or jumper is worn, shorts must be worn underneath.
- Jeans may only be solid blue or white.
- Jeans may not have holes or rips.

- Solid white or navy tights or leggings may be worn under shorts, or skirts.
- Shorts for all Middle School students must have at least a 7" inseam.
- Shorts may not be rolled.
- Jean shorts are not permitted.
- Cargo type bottoms are not permitted.

**Footwear:** Dress, casual, tennis shoes or sandals are allowed. Flip-flops are not allowed. All shoes must have a heel strap and the heel strap must be worn at all times. Shoes with wheels are not permitted. Sneakers/tennis shoes are to be worn for P.E.

**Socks:** Any socks, as long as they are not offensive, are permitted.

**Hair:** Should be clean and neat at all times, with no distracting colors or styles.

**Jewelry:** No pierced body jewelry, beside small earrings, may be worn due to safety issues.

**Makeup:** If worn, makeup should be subtle and not distracting.

## **Boy's Dress Code**

**Tops:** Kindergarten through 8th grade boys may wear any solid color collared polo shirt with buttons and without a logo. MGCS official t-shirts may be worn any day of the week.

- Only MGCS sweatshirts (sold by MGCS) are approved for classroom or campus wear.
- Any solid color sweater or cardigan without logos and zippers are approved for classroom wear.
- MGCS t-shirts or solid polos must be worn under cardigans and MGCS sweatshirts.
- Turtlenecks or under shirts are approved for under the dress code approved shirt.
- Students may have any color/style outer coat, but it may not be worn in the classroom.
- Tops should conceal the midriff area.
- Shirts may not be form fitting.

**Bottoms:** Kindergarten through 8th grade boys may wear pants and shorts in navy blue, or khaki. Boys may also wear jeans.

- No sweatpants, athletic, corduroy, or are allowed.
- Pants should fit appropriately and not be too tight or saggy.
- Jeans may only be solid blue or white.
- Jeans may not have holes or rips.
- Shorts for all Middle School students must have at least a 7" inseam.
- Shorts may not be rolled.
- Jean shorts are not permitted.
- Cargo type bottoms are not permitted.

**Footwear:** Dress, casual, tennis shoes or sandals are allowed. Flip-flops are not allowed. All shoes must have a heel strap and the heel strap must be worn at all times. Shoes with wheels are not permitted. Sneakers/tennis shoes are to be worn for P.E.

**Socks:** Any socks, as long as they are not offensive, are permitted.

**Hair:** Should be clean and neat at all times, with no distracting colors or styles. Hair must not be below the eyebrows unless it is pulled back and must be kept back away from the face. Boys' hair may not be longer than collar length unless it is pulled back. All young men must be clean-shaven.

**Jewelry:** No boys may have earrings or body jewelry.

## Casual Dress Policy

Casual Dress Days will be assigned throughout the year. During casual dress days, students should abide by the following guidelines:

**Pants and Shorts:** Students may wear any color pants or shorts of appropriate length and fit. Students may NOT wear spandex pants, leggings, cotton stretch pants, sweat pants, pajamas, or other athletic pants or shorts. All pants should be worn at or near the waist as intended.

**Shirts/Tops:** On Casual Days T-shirts must be in good condition and not have any inappropriate words, artwork, or “groups” featured on them whose work is contrary to the philosophy of MGCS. Tank, midriff, halter, low-cut, tight-fitting, see-through, form-fitting or cropped tops are not allowed.

**Dresses and Skirts:** On Casual Days Kindergarten through 5th grade students may wear knee length dresses and skirts. Tank top, spaghetti, or strapless dresses are not allowed.

**Shoes:** Dress, casual, tennis shoes or sandals are allowed. Flip-flops are not allowed. All shoes must have a heel strap and the heel strap must be worn at all times. Shoes with wheels are not permitted. House slippers are not permitted.

### Not Allowed

- Hats (except for designated days)
- Distracting hair colors (except for designated days)
- Body piercing jewelry

## Exceptions

Exceptions to this Dress Code policy are made on certain occasions as approved by the administration. However, if students choose not to participate in these activities, a school dress code must be worn.

- **Spirit Days** will be announced throughout the year and are typically an exception to the Casual Day dress code allowing sweatpants, appropriate length athletic shorts, or athletic pants. Pajamas are not permitted unless otherwise specified.
- **Special Events** Spaghetti strap, strapless, backless, see through, halter, low cut, revealing or any dress or top that shows the midriff area are not permitted. Dresses and skirts must be no more than 3” above the knee.

## Dress Code Violations

Depending on the severity of the violation, staff may ask students to wear replacement apparel from the MGCS clothing closet or call home for a change of clothes. If the violation cannot be immediately resolved a phone call to parents will be required.

- First offense will result in a verbal warning for the student.
- Second offense will result in a notification to the parent.
- Continued violations of the same dress code infraction may result in detentions, parent conferences, disciplinary action, or a loss of that dress code privilege.