

7. DRESS CODE

7.1 Introduction

The Bryn Athyn Church School dress code is intended to promote a sphere of external order and charity which reflects the underlying religious ideals of the New Church. It outlines a system that promotes modesty and conscientiousness about school and learning, and fosters school unity and school pride. The dress code will be enforced at school with appropriate steps and consequences defined elsewhere. We appreciate the participation of parents in outfitting their children in accordance with the following guidelines.

If there is a medical reason why a student cannot comply with the dress code for an ongoing need, a doctor's note and a conversation with the vice principal is required.

7.2 General Clothing Requirements

While in school, students should wear classic, uniform-style clothing. This includes long or short pants, skirts and jumpers for girls, polo shirts, button-up shirts, full turtlenecks, and simple, secure-fitting shoes or sandals.

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL CLOTHING

The following guidelines apply to all clothing items. In the interest of simplicity, they will not be repeated in descriptions of individual clothing items, but do apply to all clothing. As a general rule, if an item is not listed in this dress code, it is not permitted. As always, if you have questions ask before you buy or before you take off tags and throw away receipts.

Clothing should fit well. It should not be too tight, too short, too long, too low, form fitting, baggy, or sloppy.

Clothing should be simple. It should be in solid colors or BACS plaid (see below for more information). Clothing should not have stripes or patterns of any kind. Clothing should not have decorations or embellishments. This is including but not limited to appliques, patches, extra buttons or zippers, extra pockets, decorative stitching (except shoes – see shoe guidelines), flowers, rhinestones, gems, sparkles, or lights. BACS patches will be available for purchase (around \$3 each) that may be sewn onto clothing to hide logos and to enhance school pride.

Clothing should be in good condition. It should be clean without unfinished seams or edges, tears, fraying, stains, or wrinkles.

BACS plaid. BACS plaid is available through different vendors under different names: at Flynn and O'Hara (<https://www.fando.net/home.asp>) you can register your child as a BACS student and you will be automatically offered the correct plaid; at Lands' End the BACS plaid is called classic navy large plaid; and at French

Toast (<http://www.frenchtoast.com/>) it is called navy/red. Please confirm that you have the correct plaid if you have any questions.

Pants and Shorts:

Acceptable pants and shorts are traditional, uniform-style, pants or shorts in navy blue or khaki (this style of pants is sometimes referred to as chinos, Dockers or khakis). Pants and shorts should sit at or just below the waist and have a straight leg. Shorts should be no more than 4" from the ground when kneeling.

No:

- Jeans, cargo pants, military fatigues, overalls, sweatpants, warm-up pants or other athletic wear
- Bellbottoms or gauchos
- Drawstring waists
- Low-rise pants
- Pockets that are pouch-style, cargo-style or pleated
- Removable legs
- Jersey, knits, interlock, satin or denim

Skirts and Jumpers:

In addition to pants and shorts, girls may wear skirts, skorts, and jumpers. Acceptable skirts, skorts (full skirt with attached shorts), and jumpers are traditional, **uniform-style** in navy blue, khaki, or BACS plaid. They should sit at or just below the waist and be no more than 4" from the floor when kneeling. Uniform style button embellishments are permitted.

For modesty sake, navy blue or black, fitted knit shorts or spandex must be worn underneath skirts and jumpers, must come down to mid-thigh, and must not show.

Dresses – Permitted for K-3rd grades only:

In addition to pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, and jumpers, girls in k-3rd may also wear polo dresses. Acceptable dresses are **uniform-style** polo dresses in any solid color with the exception of black, metallic, or neon colors. Dresses should be no more than 4 inches from the floor when kneeling.

Shirts:

Acceptable shirts are traditional, **uniform-style** long or short sleeve polo shirts, button-up shirts, and full turtlenecks (no mock turtlenecks) in woven, jersey, or mesh (pique) fabric with buttons all the way up to the collar. Any solid color is permitted with the exception of black, metallic, or neon colors. Shirts should be long enough to cover the waistband when the arms are raised but should not go below the hips. Additionally, shirts should be buttoned up to at least the third button from the top.

Shirts must have collars and the collars must always be worn down. Girl's shirts can have a pointed or rounded (Peter Pan) collar, which can be plain or have a small ruffle or lace in the same color as the shirt

Shirts with tails (a curved bottom edge) must be tucked in for students in 4th-8th grade.

When an undershirt is worn, it must be white and may only show at the collar.

Sweaters/Fleeces/Sweatshirts:

Acceptable sweaters and fleeces are traditional, uniform-style in white, navy blue, or red. Sweaters and fleeces can be cardigan or pull-over styles with zippers or buttons. Sweater and fleece vests are permitted.

Students are allowed to wear the BACS sweatshirt but are not permitted to wear any other sweatshirts, hoodies, or coats in the classroom. If your child tends to get cold at school, you will need to send him/her with a regulation sweater, fleece, or BACS sweatshirt.

Sweaters and BACS sweatshirts may have hoods, but hoods must not be worn up in the school building.

Students are required to wear a dress code compliant shirt underneath sweaters, fleeces and sweatshirts.

Belts:

Acceptable belts are traditional style belts with a conservative buckle in solid black or brown. Belts must be appropriately fastened at all times.

Belts are permitted but not required for K-3rd grade. Belts are required for any 4th-6th grade student if the shirt is tucked in and the skirt or pants have belt loops. Belts are also part of formal event wear, see below. Belts are required for any 7th – 8th grade student (and for 4th-6th graders when requested by the school), boy or girl, whenever pants are worn.

Ties:

Ties are optional, except for during formal event wear occasions, when they are required for boys. For boys, acceptable ties are neatly tied standard ties or bow ties that are BACS plaid or any solid color with the exception of black, metallic, or neon colors. For girls, acceptable ties are neatly tied standard ties or cross ties in BACS plaid (standard ties should not be worn with a Peter Pan collar). All ties should be worn with a button-up shirt that is completely buttoned.

Socks:

Acceptable socks, tights, and leggings are plain, cabled, or ribbed **in any solid color**. Socks must be visible above the shoe. Small logos are permitted on socks. Logos can be a different color than the sock.

Shoes and Sandals:

Students may wear any shoes, as long as they are safe and secure-fitting and sit below the ankle, and as long as they are not heels. Note that footwear such as flip-flops, slippers, Crocs or boots (indoors) do not meet these requirements.

Shoes should always be securely and neatly fastened (tied, buckled, velcroed, etc.) and sandals should, at a minimum, have a strap across the foot and around the back of the ankle.

Socks must always be worn with shoes.

No:

- Boots (indoors), water shoes, jelly shoes, slippers, Uggs, Vibram FiveFingers or look-alikes of any of these styles
- High heels or pumps over 1"
- Excessive padding on the tongue or otherwise

On bad weather days, students are encouraged to wear boots to school but must change to acceptable shoes before the 8:00 bell.

P.E. SHOES: Please see section 7.4 P.E. Clothing Guidelines below for important information about P.E. shoes.

7.3 Event Wear

In the interest of school spirit, unity and pride, as well as other considerations, the school requires certain clothing for various school events. Notes will go home informing parents when Event Wear should be worn.

Casual Event Wear:

Casual event wear is required for field trips and at some other times, specified by the classroom teacher. Casual event wear requires students to wear a red polo shirt with their regular school bottoms.

7.4 P.E. Clothing Guidelines

Primary grades

Primary grade students wear their school clothes to PE.

Shoe options for PE class:

1. Wear secure fitting, comfortable shoes with non-marking soles to school and to PE class.
2. Bring sneakers/athletic shoes to change into for PE class.

Intermediate and Upper grades

Intermediate and Upper grade students will be issued a PE uniform by the PE teachers in their first class. The uniforms stay at school and are laundered regularly on school premises.

Students must wear socks and secure fitting sneakers/athletic shoes with non-marking soles and laced up ties to PE class. Hair must be tied back for PE classes.

Students are encouraged to:

1. Leave their sneakers in their PE locker
2. Have personal care items such as deodorant and comb/brush (aerosol not allowed)
3. Have a lock for their lockers
4. Have a sweatshirt for outside activities.

7.5 Jewelry

1. All jewelry should be minimal (no large showy costume jewelry), and bracelets should be no wider than ½ inch.
2. Visible body piercings, other than ear piercing and **nostril piercing**, are not acceptable. Nostril piercings must be limited to small studs. All earrings/nostril studs must be removed for PE and after school sports.
3. Earring length should follow the guidelines below:
 - Primary Grades (K-3): no longer than ½ inch
 - Intermediate Grades (4-6): no longer than 1 inch
 - Upper Grades (7-8): no longer than 1½ inches
4. Sunglasses are not to be worn inside the school building.

7.6 Hair

1. Hair should be neat, clean, nicely groomed and kept out of the eyes. Also unacceptable are distracting variations of hair style, or hair that calls undue attention to a student.
2. Hair, for boys and girls in the intermediate and upper grades (4-8), should be cut such that eyebrows are visible. Students with hair that falls into their eyes, who do not want to cut it, may discreetly use hair products such as rubber bands, clips, or hairspray to keep their hair out of their eyes.
3. Hair must be tied back for PE classes.
4. Head scarves and bonnets may be worn. They may be solid black, white, red, dark green, light or navy blue — in shades that match the uniform.
5. Students in the primary and intermediate grades (K-6) may not come to school with his or her hair dyed any color. In the upper grades (7-8) students' hair must remain its natural color, but very light, blended highlighting is acceptable.
6. Boys should have a clean shaven appearance (no moustaches or beards).

7.7 Make-up

1. Students in the primary and intermediate grades (K-6) may not wear make-up. Students in the upper grades (7-8) may wear very light make-up.

2. Any color nail polish is acceptable for all students with the exception of black or near-black colors.

7.8 Outdoor wear

1. The outdoors are used as part of the school day, even in inclement weather. As a result, students will be expected to have outerwear that will enable them to be outside in rain and cold weather. They may bring outerwear to leave at school so they don't have to remember it every day.

7.9 Buttons/pins

1. Students are not permitted to wear buttons or pins with words or pictures on them.