

Abundant Life Christian School desires to maintain an appropriate educational environment. Cleanliness, neatness, and modesty (I Tim 2:9 "...dress modestly, with decency and propriety...") are our goals. We believe our dress and our actions represent the feelings and thoughts of our hearts. Therefore, our clothing and the way we wear it should represent our desire to please God and honor him. Any apparel, hairstyles, make-up, jewelry, or accessories that interfere with these purposes are unacceptable.

ALCS does not have an "official" uniform but our dress code is in actuality creating standard for dress with as broad parameters as possible that meet the goals. All students are to abide by these standards as we are training our students to make modest choices.

**ALCS DEPENDS ON OUR PARENTS** to work with the schools in maintaining these appearance standards by checking your child before s/he leaves for school, making sure s/he is dressed and groomed properly. It is understood that enrollment at ALCS or at HPCS means a pledge on the part of both parents and students to abide by this dress code. Please have your child(ren) read, understand, and agree to follow the *ALCS Dress Code*.

Teachers and administration have the authority to interpret and enforce this dress code policy. When a circumstance occurs where the parents and teachers cannot come to an agreement, administration will have the final word.

## General Guidelines for All Students

**CLOTHING:** All students are to dress modestly. Lettering and pictures must not be offensive to God or others. (See next page for specifics.)

**SHOES:** Shoes or sandals must be worn and fastened. Socks are recommended. Safety and hygiene should be considered in choosing shoe styles – particularly with regards to playground and outdoor activities. It is important that students wear proper athletic shoes for P.E. and other athletic activities.

**CAPS:** No caps or hats may be worn in school. Hooded sweatshirts must be worn with the hood down while inside the school.

**DRESS UP DAYS:** Special events such as the Christmas program, spelling bee, speech contest, science fair, concerts, special programs, and graduation require students to dress up. The school will send special guidelines, if applicable when these events occur. Because we want our students to understand that dressing modestly isn't something important only on school days but should be a lifestyle, ALCS Dress Code applies regardless of occasion or location, including graduation pictures and graduation. However, we do understand that for graduation and graduation pictures the girls dress quite formally and it can be difficult to find a dress of an appropriate length. In the case of graduation and graduation pictures only, we will allow dresses that are a bit shorter as long as they are of modest length (mini-skirt length is not modest length).

## **Boys**

**SHIRTS:** Shirts must be opaque with modest necklines. Sweatshirts are acceptable. No underclothing may be displayed. Sleeveless t-shirts are acceptable, but tank-type shirts are not. Shirts with buttons must be buttoned appropriately. Shirts must reach below the waistline – no bare stomachs.\*

**PANTS:** Dress pants, sweat or wind pants, and jeans are acceptable. Pants must be of full length and moderate cut. Pants must be worn with the waist above the hips. "Ripped" jeans may be worn only if rips are at or below the fingertips (arms straight down at side).

**SHORTS:** Knee length shorts may be worn April through October. Spandex and short shorts are unacceptable.

## **Girls**

**SHIRTS AND BLOUSES:** Shirts and blouses must be opaque with modest necklines. A modest neckline is defined as when the hand (fingers together, as for the pledges) is laid on the collarbone below the chin, the cloth is touched by the lowest finger. Sweatshirts are acceptable. Sleeveless blouses and t-shirts are acceptable but the shoulder must be at least three fingers wide. Shirts with buttons must be buttoned appropriately. Shirts must reach below the waistline – no bare stomachs.\*

**DRESSES, SKIRTS, AND SLACKS:** Dresses, skirts, and skorts are acceptable. Hemlines must be fingertip (arms straight down at side) length or longer even if leggings or tights are worn underneath. Dresses must have modest necklines (see above definition). Tank style dresses and jumpers are unacceptable unless worn with a blouse or shirt. Dress slacks, sweat pants, wind pants, and jeans are acceptable. "Ripped" jeans may be worn only if rips are at or below the fingertips (arms straight down at side). Leggings may be worn but only with a skirt or a top at least fingertip length that covers 360 degrees.

**SHORTS:** Shorts (at or below fingertip level) may be worn April through October. Spandex, and short shorts are unacceptable. For those playing athletics (during practices and games only), mid-thigh shorts are acceptable.

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*\*Midriffs must be covered at all times. When a student's arms are raised, no skin should show. A tank top or a camisole may be worn underneath a shirt if the shirt is too short.*