



# 2024-2025 Student Dress Code

Please realize that we have a wide variety of attitudes regarding personal appearance, but it is often necessary to set aside our individual desires for the good of the overall school family. We trust the following list of guidelines will clarify for students and Parent/Guardians the desire we have at RCA for our students to glorify the Lord in their dress and grooming. As you read through this list, please consider the three major principles that represent the spirit of the Dress Code: that students are to wear clothes that are modest, appropriate, and neat. It is the administration who interprets these three principles.

**MODESTY** can be defined as making sure our bodies are covered in such a way as to honor the Lord and not to offend and/or tempt those around us.

**APPROPRIATENESS** can be defined as wearing clothes that fit the occasion. In a school setting, appropriate clothes are those that do not hinder the educational process.

**NEATNESS** can be defined as a look that is clean with clothes that are proper fitting and in good repair.

## **DRESS CODE BOUNDARIES**

Enforcement of the dress code starts before the student walks out of the house in the morning. Please STOP and check to make sure that these guidelines are followed before leaving home.

The Bible tells us that “man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7) God knows our spiritual condition by our hearts, but men can initially see only the physical body and how it is attired. God’s word declares that it is our responsibility to avoid that which might cause another person to stumble.

As such, the purpose of our Dress Code is twofold. The first intent is to honor the Lord Jesus Christ in the appearance of the students in modesty, appropriateness, and neatness. The second intent is to challenge students in learning accountability, discernment, and willing obedience. (Hebrews 5:14, 1 Peter 2:13) We have sought to develop a standard of proper dress and general appearance for students that will: Reflect favorably on the Christian nature of our school; Reflect favorably on the whole student body; Enhance the educational process.

## **DRESS CODE**

School colors for boys and girls are navy polo type tops (no logo larger than the size of a dime) and khaki bottoms (long pants or fingertip (minimum) length shorts) (NO elastic at the hem or ankle). Effective with the 2018-2019 school year all students will have the option of wearing the **navy** RCA t-shirt each day of the week with khaki bottoms (NO elastic at the hem or ankle). These shirts are available for purchase in the office. Shirt tails must be tucked in and a brown, tan, black or navy-blue belt must be worn with all bottoms that have belt loops. ALL sweaters, sweater vests or crewneck pullovers worn in the classroom (except outdoor recess) must be navy blue with NO other markings (an exception is the official RCA logo which is always allowed). No Hoodies are allowed in the classroom or on campus. Students may wear any color outerwear to and from school but NOT in school. Girls may wear jumpers or skirts, if they so desire in khaki with a navy uniform shirt. If tights or socks are worn with jumpers or skirts, they must be white, navy or khaki in color; please no multi colors.

Shoes must be worn at all times. Shoes should be of a basic color (we know this is tough, just walking through the shoe store you can be blinded by the bright colors.) If the color looks OK with the uniform it should be fine. No sequins or faddish appearances. No sandals, flip-flops, open toe shoes or athletic shoes missing laces. No boots of any type are allowed. Shoes with a heel greater than ½” are not allowed. Socks are optional. If crew socks are worn, they may be black, white, or taupe. “Footie socks” or “no-shows” may be of any color. All socks if worn must match. If tights, leggings, or leotards are worn by girls they must be white, navy or taupe with no stripes or designs. **NEW for the 2023 – 2024 school year; Crocks may be worn with socks (Navy or Black in color) in sports mode. Crocks MUST be of one color; navy, black, tan or khaki. NO decorations are allowed. On Physical Education days tennis shoes must be worn for safety.**

### **DRESS CODE BOUNDARIES FOR YOUNG LADIES**

Jewelry should be worn in moderation and in good taste. Nose, eyes, or tongue piercing **is not** appropriate for school. Earrings should not dangle. God created us with natural hair colors and for the most part those hair colors should be maintained. Multiple hair colors (ombre or rainbow colors) or colors that draw undue attention to themselves or styles that do, are not acceptable. Girls who wear beads or bows in their hair are required to adhere to our uniform colors. Bows or beads must be navy, khaki or white. Beads should be no greater than ¼" in diameter for safety reasons. You must be able to maintain your hairstyle in a neat and clean manner. Girls may wear makeup "lightly" and only to accentuate the natural beauty given by God. If someone can look at you and tell your wearing makeup you are wearing too much and you will be asked to remove it. (An exception to this policy is the use of concealer to cover medical skin conditions.) Fingernails may be painted one solid color and all nails must be of the same color (no bright colors or wild designs) but must not be so long as to hinder your responsibilities as a student (no pointed or stiletto nails). Perfume may be worn lightly. Some are highly sensitive to scents. Please be considerate of your classmates.

### **DRESS CODE BOUNDARIES FOR YOUNG MEN**

Boys **may not** wear earrings or any other piercing (To include clear plastic earring retainers). Hair should be modestly styled and neatly combed and clean. Boys' hair should not be longer than the top of collar in length or cover the ears. Boy's hair should be worn naturally. Multiple hair colors (ombre or rainbow colors) or colors that draw undue attention to themselves are not acceptable. No excessive use of hair gels. Mohawks, Mullets, and designs shaved into the head, beads, rubber bands, "Man Buns," pony tails, rat tails, etc. are not allowed. If you have to knot, pull, twist, or tie your hair it is not acceptable. **Facial hair is not allowed.** Sideburns may not extend beyond the bottom of the ear. Boys are not permitted to wear makeup or paint their fingernails. **ONLY One (1) religious necklace may be worn and or one (1) prayer bead type bracelet.** After shave or cologne may be worn lightly. Some are highly sensitive to scents. Please be considerate of your classmates.

### **ITEMS AND ACTIONS SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED OR REQUIRED UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED**

All pants and shorts must have a hem – no cut offs and no cinched elastic hems.

No athletic shorts, yoga pants, spandex or khaki leggings or jeggings.

No undergarments are to be worn as outer garments.

Pants or tops are not to be tight fitting or fit/hug the shape of one's body.

If you see lines from underclothes – it is too tight for school! Move up a size or two if necessary.

Shirts, tops, and dresses must have sleeves. NO tank tops or spaghetti straps.

No layering of clothing.

All buttons will be buttoned. Depending on the shirt type the top one or two may be left open.

No sheer or see-through fabrics.

Pants and shorts are to be worn in such a way as to NOT show under clothes. NO SAGGING!

No revealing neckline, back, or midriff will be allowed.

Shirts must be long enough to be tucked in (Square hem polo shirts may be worn out) and must always cover the waistline.

If you bend over and skin is showing –select a longer shirt.

If you raise your hands and your belly shows – select a longer shirt.

No hats, caps, or sunglasses may be worn in the school building or on campus.

No inappropriate handbags or book bags (Skull and crossbones, vulgar language etc.).

No Logoed items will be allowed if they promote any business that might be considered immodest or inappropriate.

No rips, tears, holes, or frays on any clothing (This includes jeans on Friday).

Pants must not drag on the floor.

No sweat pants (elastic around the legs) or gym attire unless authorized for PE.

Students are required to remain in uniform when on campus. Changing to attend after school care, waiting to be picked up etc. is not permitted.

If a student needs to change clothing for an afterschool activity the parent should send a note requesting same.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND FIELD TRIPS**

Appropriate attire for field trips will be announced ahead so that you can make the appropriate selections. Attire will be based on the field trip and activities involved. The standard uniform for all field trips unless otherwise posted will be navy RCA t-shirt and khaki bottoms.

### **DRESS DOWN FRIDAYS**

Each Friday of the school year students may **pay \$1.00** and wear **any color of RCA t-shirt and blue jeans (NO rips holes or tears)**. This donation will be placed in the school local mission fund.

Students found in violation of this dress code may choose to make an on-the-spot correction to correct the violation or they may be sent home when appropriate.