



New Springs Christian Academy Dress Code

Why A School Dress Code?

At NSCA, we want to create a respectful and distraction-free place to learn. We ask students to dress in a way that is **modest, neat, and clean**, showing respect for **God, others**, and our **school values**. NSCA dress code is required for 1st through 8th grade (excluding preschool and Kindergarten).

Dress Code

At NSCA, we strive to create a respectful and focused learning environment, where modesty, neatness, and cleanliness are important. We ask that students dress in a way that doesn't distract from the learning process or draw attention to themselves. Clothing and hairstyles should reflect respect for God, fellow classmates, and the values of NSCA.

Fashions that are extreme or overly distracting are not allowed. Parents are asked to help ensure their children follow the dress code. If a student's clothing doesn't meet the guidelines for modesty or neatness, they may be asked to change into appropriate attire or wait in the school office until they can. In some cases, parents may need to bring a change of clothes.

The administration has the discretion to make decisions on dress code violations that may not be explicitly addressed in the handbook. The dress code may also be updated as needed throughout the year.

NSCA administration, teachers, and staff are responsible for making sure all students follow the dress code. If a student is found not to be in compliance, they will be given guidance on how to correct the issue.

Tops and Dresses Uniform Guidelines

- Students should wear a polo, crewneck, dress shirt, dress, or NSCA logo/ graphic shirt (long or short sleeve, relaxed fit) from Monday to Thursday.
- All tops, including polos, crewnecks, or dress shirts, and dresses must be solid-colored with no patterns (with the exception of the logo/ graphic shirt)

- Acceptable colors include: white, black, navy, baby blue, khaki, gray, red, or dark red
- Every Friday is Spirit Shirt Day! NSCA spirit shirts, including school store shirts, trip shirts, sports shirts, or Christian t-shirts, are welcome.
- All shirts must cover the waistband, and the midriff should never be visible. Shirts don't need to be tucked in, but they should be long enough that no skin shows when raising your arms. If it's too short when you lift your arms, it's best to leave it at home.
- Long-sleeved t-shirts worn under short-sleeved polos are fine, but they should be solid-colored, without logos, brands, or stripes on the sleeves.
- All tops must be in good condition—no tears, rips, or excessive wear.
- Shirts that show undergarments are not allowed.

Bottoms Uniform Guidelines

- Pants and shorts should fit modestly and be school-appropriate. Both boys and girls are expected to wear pants at or near the waist. If pants slide too low, a belt may be needed.
- All bottoms, including pants, capris, skirts, and skorts, must be solid-colored with no patterns.
- Approved colors are black, navy, khaki/tan, and gray.
- Remember, shorts or leggings should be worn under skirts and dresses.
- Leggings can be worn as pants, but only if the top covers the bottom fully.
- Shorts, dresses, skirts, and skorts should be at or just slightly above the knee (about the width of four fingers), and must be a modest length, as determined by the administrator.
- Underwear, compression shorts, or anything else worn under clothing should never be visible above the waistband or below the cuff line of shorts, even when sitting.
- Parents are responsible for making sure their child's clothing stays the right length, especially during growth spurts.
- All pants, dresses, shorts, and skorts should be in good repair, properly hemmed, and free of holes, rips, or frayed edges. Cut-off shorts are not allowed, but raw hems are fine.

Footwear and Socks Guidelines

- **1st – 5th grade students** should wear sports shoes every day, along with socks or tights (for girls). Properly fitting shoes are important for safety during P.E. and outdoor play.
- **Unacceptable footwear for 1st – 5th grade** includes rolling shoes, slippers, ballet flats, flip-flops, crocs, and any shoe with a heel.
- **Unacceptable footwear for 6th-8th grade** includes slippers and shoes with a heel.
- Shoes must be worn at all times during the school day.
- NSCA staff reserves the right to ask students to change shoes if they don't meet the dress code guidelines.

Outerwear Guidelines

- All hoodies, cardigans, zip-up sweaters, crewnecks, and other outerwear must be in solid colors: white, black, navy, baby blue, khaki, gray, red, or dark red.
- If outerwear has a logo, it should be no larger than a credit card.
- Outerwear with NSCA graphics is allowed.
- Winter coats are only to be worn outside.
- Oversized hoodies that are hip length or longer are not permitted.
- Hats, beanies, hoods, and earmuffs cannot be worn inside the building.

Boy Hair Requirements

- Hair should be neat, clean, above the shoulders, and kept out of the eyes.
- Unkempt or shaggy hair (over the eyes) is not allowed.
- Extreme haircuts like mohawks, shaved designs, or man buns are not permitted.
- Changing natural hair color, including frosted tips, bleaching, or multi-toned hair, is not allowed.
- Facial hair is not allowed. The administration may ask for changes if needed.
- No visible tattoos (real or fake) or body piercings are allowed.
- Boys may not wear headbands.
- Earrings or nail polish are not allowed for boys.

Girls' Hair Requirements

- Extreme hairstyles are not allowed.
- Shaved hair, symbols, tinsel, or unnatural colors, even in braids, are not permitted.
- Only natural-looking highlights are allowed. Two-toned styles like front chunking, streaks, or sectioning are not allowed. The administration will decide if a color is considered a highlight or a chunk.
- "Red" hair must be a natural shade, not a vibrant red.
- For those with fade haircuts, the longer hair must be kept out of the eyes and above the ears.

Jewelry Guidelines

- **Girls may wear jewelry**, but it must be worn **in moderation**.
- Jewelry must be **modest and age-appropriate**.
- **Large hoops or dangling earrings are not recommended** due to safety concerns.
- **Only girls may have pierced ears**.
- **No visible real or fake tattoos or body piercings** (except for earrings) are allowed.

Makeup & Nails Guidelines

- Makeup and nails are **only permitted for students in grades 6–8**.
- **Girls may wear makeup**, but it must be worn **in moderation**. (minimal foundation, blush, and mascara - natural looking makeup)
- **Nails should not be excessively long**, and **designs should be neutral and not distracting**.

Accessories Guidelines

- **Hair bands and accessories** must be in **school-approved colors**.
- **Hats** may be worn **only at recess** — not inside the school; **no hoods** should be up during class.
- **Watches** are allowed, but **must not have internet or texting capabilities**.

PE Dress Code (Grades 5–8)

Students in grades 5–8 should bring a **change of clothes** for gym class.

Approved PE Clothing:

- **Shorts** must follow the regular uniform guidelines.
- **Loose-fitting, solid-colored** joggers or sweatpants are allowed.
- **Leggings, spandex, or yoga pants** are only okay if worn with a **long t-shirt that fully covers the bottom**.
- Tops should be **plain, solid-colored t-shirts, NSCA spirit shirts, or Christian-themed shirts**.

Dress Code Policy Notes & Enforcement

Administrative Discretion

- The administration reserves the right to make **case-by-case decisions** regarding dress code issues not explicitly addressed in the handbook.
- The dress code may be **amended during the school year** as needed.

Dress Code Consequences

- **Modesty violations** (e.g., shorts too short, visible undergarments):
 - Student will be sent to the office and required to **call home for appropriate clothing**.
- **Non-modesty violations** (e.g., incorrect pant color):
 - Student may **remain in school out of dress code** for the day, but **parents will be notified**.
- **Repeated violations** may be considered **defiant** and can lead to **suspension**, following the **Major Conduct Violation** policy.

Dress Code FAQ

What grades follow the dress code?

Students in **1st through 8th grade** follow the NSCA dress code.

When do students wear uniforms?

Uniforms are worn **Monday through Thursday**. On **Fridays**, students can wear **spirit shirts** instead of uniform tops. Spirit shirts include:

- NSCA logo shirts (from the school store) **These shirts may also be worn Monday through Thursday.*
- Field trip shirts

- NSCA sports shirts
- Christian-themed t-shirts

Can students wear jeans on Spirit Friday?

Yes! As long as the jeans (or athletic pants) have a **modest fit**, are the **right length**, and have **no rips or tears**.

What bottoms are allowed with uniforms?

- Shorts and pants in **solid colors**: black, navy, khaki, or gray
- **Skirts, skorts, and dresses** must be **fingertip-length**
- **Athletic pants** (in school colors) are allowed on P.E. days
- **Leggings** are only allowed **under dresses/skirts/skorts**, or with a **long top that covers the bottom**

What kind of outerwear is allowed?

- **Hoodies, zip-ups, and sweatshirts** in solid school colors (white, black, navy, baby blue, khaki, gray, red, or dark red)
- Must be worn with a **school-approved top underneath**
- Should **fit appropriately**

Are P.E. uniforms required?

Not required, but **grades 6–8 must change** for P.E. They should bring:

- Shorts that follow dress code
- A t-shirt that is a **plain color**, an **NSCA spirit shirt**, or a **Christian t-shirt**

Can families get used uniforms?

Yes! We have a **uniform swap** each August. You can donate gently used uniforms throughout the year. Then at the uniform swap, families make a monetary donation to NSCA for the uniforms taken.

What is “New Springs Clothing”?

Clothing from the **NSCA school store** can be worn **Monday - Thursday** as uniform tops or on **Fridays** as spirit wear. Ordering usually happens in **August, November, and March** — watch for school emails.