

Excerpt beginning on page 11 of the **current ECS Student Handbook**.

The handbook is available to all students and parents in the office and on the school's web site.

## Elfers Christian School K-12 Dress Code

It is the belief of Elfers Christian School that developing Christian character includes being disciplined in the areas of clothing, hair, jewelry and makeup. We believe that the dress of a student has direct influence and relation to their conduct. Student appearance must be conservative, neat and modest, reflecting the highest standards of a Christian school environment. We ask that parents, when visiting the campus, dress in a conservative manner as well.

### Clothing for students:

- **School clothing** must be neat, clean, and modest. Clothing that is form fitting is not acceptable. Clothing must not be ripped, torn, or frayed. Any questions, please feel free to call the school office. Target, Bealls, Old Navy, or Wal-Mart are just some of the stores where school clothing, even a variety of optional, standard school uniform styles, are available.

- **Bottoms** – Pants, shorts, capris, and skirts must be plain colors, preferably navy blue, black, or khaki (all shades; brown, tan, olive, grey, etc.) Plaid is acceptable for girls only, when in a uniform style skirt or jumper. No hip huggers, low riders or stretch pants. This clearly means: no stretchy jeans, no leggings, no yoga pants or no pants that are made of an elastic or stretch fabric. Pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn around the waist and not around the hips. Cargo and carpenter style pants and shorts are acceptable. Shorts may not come more than 3 inches above the top of the knee.

(Helpful “rule of thumb” for students to self-check at home might be: hem falls clearly below the finger tips (or) use a 3x5 index card (or) must long enough to exceed a standard credit card which is 3 ½ inches long.)

- **Jeans** – All students (K-12) are permitted to wear denim jeans, blue jeans or jean skirts. They must be in good repair and may not have cut-off hems, frayed or holes. Grades 7-12 may not wear jean shorts.

- **Tops** – Solid colored or striped polo shirts with collar. ECS logo or small unobtrusive logo is acceptable. Girls must wear a camisole under their shirt if you can see through the polo. All polos need to be loose fitting in style and modest. Shirts must be tucked in if they are longer than one hand length below the belt line. Button down shirts with collars or Oxford styled shirts with ¼ length or long sleeves may be worn by both boys and girls in all grades. For 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade Christian T-shirt Day will remain as a Friday Only option. On Fridays MS/HS students may wear a distinctively Christian or ECS T-shirt. (Optional days or special theme days are specifically announced throughout the year for grades K-6)

**Hair** *(violations can and will result in temporary restrictions from class until corrected. Therefore, ASK First!)*

- **Boys** – Hair must be well groomed, out of the eyes, and must not extend below the top of the collar or the bottom of the ear. Shaved or partially shaved hairstyles are not acceptable. Students must be clean shaven with no facial hair. Sideburns must not extend below the bottom of the ear.

- **Girls** – Hair must be well groomed, out of eyes, and must not obstruct vision.

- Extreme, distracting, or non-traditional hairstyles are to be avoided by all students. Extreme, unnatural hair color for boys and girls will not be allowed.

### Jewelry

- Boys and girls may wear appropriate jewelry (nothing overstated, questionable, or anti-Christian). Ear lobe “gauges” are not appropriate or permissible for ECS students.

- **Boys** - Bracelets and necklaces are acceptable for boys, to a minimum. Earrings or body piercing of any kind are not permitted for boys attending school or any school function.

- **Girls** - May wear earrings, only two (2) in each ear at a time. Any body piercing, other than for ears, is not permitted for girls attending school or any school function.

## **Makeup**

- Girls may wear makeup in moderation; use common sense and moderation.
- If makeup is very obvious or excessive, it will be considered inappropriate and students will be required to remove it.

## **Tattoos**

- Tattoos for ECS students are not permitted. If a student has a tattoo prior to enrolling, the tattoo must not be visible during school hours, at school events or school functions.
- ECS Administration reserves the right to make the final decision regarding any student tattoo

## **Accessories**

- **Shoes** – Clean and neat sneakers, dress shoes or boots. All shoes must have non-marking soles. Sneakers are required on PE day. No open toe shoes.
- **Girls** – Hose or socks, when worn, should be matching and coordinated with clothing.
- **Boys** – Must wear matching socks.
- **Belts** – Must be worn if pants have belt loops. Anything other than traditional style belts must be approved by Administration.
- **Hats** – Must not be worn while in the building or in common areas.
- **Dark Glasses** – Are not to be worn in the building.
- **Scarves** – Used as headbands are not acceptable.
- **Sweater and Jackets** – All outerwear must be appropriate for a Christian environment. Only lightweight sweaters and jackets are allowed to be worn while in the classroom. We encourage students to wear ECS logo outerwear. Hoodies with college, university or sports team logos are permitted.

An ECS dress code is required for all school activities. A modified or event appropriate school dress code may be approved for certain school activities or functions, either on or off campus. A modest and appropriate dress is always expected and required at ECS events or activities by both students and adults. Designated staff members or administrators may ask those not in compliance to leave the event. This includes games and all other after-school activities. Standards of modesty and dress requirements will be designated by the staff or person in charge for the different activities (homecoming, award programs, music programs, sporting events, field trips, etc.). Students, teachers, and parents are to adhere to the required dress.

**SLOGANS, WRITING OF ANY KIND, SYMBOLS OR PICTURES THAT ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO ADMINISTRATION WILL BE RESTRICTED!**

## **Professional Dress Outfit**

- Middle and High School students will be required to have a Professional Dress Outfit. This outfit will be worn at special events and prior notice will be given. Professional Dress entails the following:
  - **Boys** – Dress slacks, button shirt (short sleeves OK), dress shoes, tie (if required).
  - **Girls** – Dresses or skirts (must not be more than 3 inches above the knee) or dress slacks that fit in a modest way. Shoes must be neat and clean and have a strap around the back of the heel or closed in a dress shoe style.

**Any student found to be violating the school dress code will be given a warning. Parents will be contacted to bring proper attire, student may be restricted from class attendance or student may be sent home for the day.**

**ECS administration reserves the right to make final decisions regarding any areas not covered in the dress code. We recommend using conservation discernment and students to “Ask First!” or “If in doubt, leave it out!”**

# Wednesday Chapel Day

## 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade “Dress-up” Option

Gentlemen:

1. Dress pants. If belt loops show, belt required.
2. Dress shirt, button down, collared, maybe tucked or un-tucked. (No t-shirts on Wed.) Top two buttons of dress shirt unbuttoned would be appropriate.
4. Ties are encouraged, but not required. Sport coats or suits maybe worn. “Dress-up” is the expectation.

Ladies:

1. Dresses and skirts may be worn as long as the hemlines, both back and front, including slits, are not more than 3” above the knee when standing. The preference is to the knee or lower, therefore a stricter staff interpretation and student’s self-measuring expectation is expected.
2. A helpful “rule of thumb” for students to “self-check” at home might be: make sure hem falls clearly below the finger tips when standing – arms relaxed (or) use a 3x5 index card at the top of the knee (or) hem is long enough to overlap by at least ½” using a standard credit card which is 3 ½ inches long. Students may always use a ruler at home to be more precise – but that is your choice. Parents, please – assist your daughters.
2. Dresses and skirts must be loose fitting, comfortable, not form fitting. Style is very subjective, however dresses that are less “school like” and appear to be more designed as “sensual, sexy, showy, revealing, accentuating, attention seeking, edgy or immodest” will be decisively discouraged and restricted.
3. Dresses and tops must cover the shoulder. Tops may be a shirt or blouse – distinctively “dress-up in style. With or without collars, neckline is not to be lower than four closed fingers from the base of the neck. (No visible cleavage.) Tops are not to be t-shirts or designer T’s. These do not meet the criteria of “dress-up” attire.
4. Dress pants (not jeans) must be loose fitting. No shorts. The standard is to “dress-up” – not dress down.
5. Leg wear, leggings, yoga pants, tights, etc. may not be worn in substitution of proper dress or skirt length (No fishnets). Not more than 3” above the knee when standing.

The purpose of this is not to enact further rules on the student body, in contrast, it is to free the students to go above and beyond the required casual uniform code. As the Student Body, we understand one or the other “dress guidelines” must be followed on Wednesdays. Blending and cross-over items, such as a dress with a t-shirt, or dress slacks and a collarless pullover, do not meet the spirit or letter of the dress code option policy.

**Any student found to be violating the school dress code will be given a warning. Parents will be contacted to bring proper attire, student may be restricted from class attendance or student may be sent home for the day. ECS administration reserves the right to make final decisions regarding any areas not covered in the dress code.**

We recommend using conservative discernment and students to “Ask First!” or “If in doubt, leave it out!”

Approved for The ECS MS/HS Student Body in 2014-15.

Richard G. Robertson, Jr., Principal

Cindy Morelli, Asst. Admin - MS/HS Guidance

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