

CITY SCHOOLS' STUDENTS DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Important Reminder:

Every school should be enforcing dress code in a way that makes students feel safe, supported, and respected. That means:

- 1 Non-discrimination:**
 Dress code must be enforced equally regardless of a student's identity. That means that students should never be told that they are violating dress code because of their body type, gender identity, gender expression, race, religion, or any stereotypes about these personal characteristics. Schools may not require students to wear or not wear specific attire based on gender.
- 2 Non-exclusionary enforcement:**
 Students cannot be suspended, "sent home," or excluded from school for a dress code violation. City Schools supports schools using other consequences aligned to the Code of Conduct to enforce dress code.
- 3 Body-positive language:**
 School staff should use student-positive, body-positive language and should not touch students when correcting dress code. School police should not be enforcing the dress code.

Students must follow the City Schools Dress Code, including some new rules effective SY 24-25. See below for visual guidance.

NOT PERMITTED			PERMITTED		
					
HOODIES (Hood Up)	HAIR CAPS (Bonnets)	NONRELIGIOUS HEAD COVERINGS (Durags)	HOODIES (Hood Down)	ATHLETIC HEADBANDS	RELIGIOUS HEAD COVERINGS
					
HATS	NON MEDICAL MASKS	HAIR ROLLERS	MEDICAL MASKS	PROFESSIONAL HEADWRAPS	
					
OPEN TOE/NO BACK Slippers, thongs, "heelys," flip-flops, and other similar footwear are not allowed.			CLOSED TOE WITH BACK/STRAP AROUND FEET *Schools may still require K-5 students to wear fully enclosed shoes		

CITY SCHOOLS' DRESS CODE REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to dress in a way that is conducive to learning and promotes a safe and supportive academic environment. The following requirements apply to all students at all schools across City Schools.

General Requirements

- The style of clothes that students wear may not endanger them or other students or disrupt the daily school routine.
- Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing, usually for safety reasons, while participating in classes such as physical education, shop, chemistry, etc., or in curricular and extracurricular classes or activities such as band, choir, dance, drama, theater, or sports.
- Students may not wear clothing or apparel with text, images, or language that is obscene, libelous, slanderous, profane, vulgar, lewd, indecent, or has the intent to bully, harass, threaten, or intimidate, or otherwise cause material or substantial disruption to the operation of the school. Some examples of prohibited attire are clothing or apparel that displays profanity, sexually suggestive statements, or sexual acts, and hate speech, as well as text or images of weapons or that promote illegal drugs, alcohol, sex, gangs, or violence.

Specific Requirements

These requirements apply to all students during the school day and during school-sponsored activities:

- No pajama-type attire, undershirts or other bedtime attire is allowed, unless approved by the principal for a specific event, such as "pajama day."
- Shoes must have a closed toe and a back or strap. For additional safety for younger students, schools may require K-5 students to wear fully enclosed shoes. **[Updated 2024]**
- No hats, bonnets, durags, hair rollers, or curlers are allowed. Professional head wraps/scarves and athletic headbands are permitted. Hats or head coverings are permitted for religious or approved medical accommodations. **[Updated 2024]**
- Students may wear hoodies to school, but hoods must be off upon entering the building, throughout the school day, and while attending school related functions. **[Updated 2024]**
- Face coverings are not permitted unless for religious or approved medical purposes. For example, ski masks are not allowed, but surgical masks are allowed to prevent spread of illness. **[Updated 2024]**
- Shorts and skirts may not be shorter than fingertip length (the bottom hem of the shorts/skirt should not fall above the student's fingertips when their arms are relaxed at their sides). Halter tops, tank tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, or see-through clothing are not allowed.
- Pants should be worn appropriately at the waist, without undergarments showing.
- No elastic fabric sportswear is allowed, but clothing with elastic waistbands is permitted. **[Updated 2024]**
- No clothing designed or altered to expose undergarments or parts of the body except arms or legs is allowed.
- No undergarments worn as outerwear are allowed. Clothing should be worn so that undergarments, including boxer shorts, thongs, or bras, are not exposed.
- Schools may set approved colors and styles for uniform items and sweatshirts/sweaters/hoodies. However, schools cannot require embroidery or school branding on uniforms unless the school provides free or low-cost uniform items. **[Updated 2024]**
- Jewelry is permitted, but City Schools is not responsible for lost/stolen items or injury resulting from students' jewelry. For additional safety for younger students, schools may set limits on the type and size of jewelry K-5 students are permitted to wear. Watches are permitted, but if they can be used as phones, texting devices, or to access the Internet, they must comply with the rules in Board Policy JICJ (Student Use of Portable Electronic Communications Devices). **[Updated 2024]**
- Sexually suggestive statements, or sexual acts, and hate speech, as well as text or images of weapons or that promote illegal drugs, alcohol, sex, gangs, or violence.

School-Level Requirements:

Schools may create additional uniform guidance if it does not contradict the City Schools dress code.

Families can get free or low-cost uniforms by: