



## **Dress Code**

Our desire at Westlake Christian Academy is to do all things in a way pleasing to the Lord and in a manner that will honor Him. The Bible is clear that our attire should be modest (I Timothy 2:9), not too elaborate (I Peter 3:3-4), and that we should do everything to the glory of God (I Corinthians 10:31).

Westlake Christian Academy is in favor of tasteful attire so that we are not offensive and might “adorn the Gospel” with our attractiveness. This is one reason WCA has elected to have a dress code. These standards serve as a tool in fostering the academic character development of students as they participate in the education process.

The primary responsibility for dress code falls on the parents. We desire the teachers’ attention to be focused in areas other than monitoring dress code and we ask that you ensure your child’s clothing meets the dress code standard before they leave home.

Students who are not within the school guidelines will be sent to the office. Students will remain out of class until a correction can be made. If a correction cannot easily be resolved, parents may be asked to bring a change of clothing. The administration reserves the right to final determination regarding adherence to the dress code.

WCA realizes a number of benefits of a dress code:

- It is a means of building character and distinction in the lives of our students and it trains them to make choices within guidelines.
- It fosters a higher level of professionalism, respect to the school environment and an atmosphere conducive to learning.
- It encourages a sense of unity and camaraderie among the students.
- It resolves fashion issues caused by the comparison of who’s wearing what brand of clothing.
- It helps maintain a focus on learning rather than on fashion.
- It may result in a less expensive wardrobe.
- It allows for quicker identification of our students thus adding another level of security.

**Lands' End** and **French Toast** are providers of school uniforms that are in keeping with the WCA dress code.

**Lands' End:** 800-469-2222  
[www.landsend.com/school](http://www.landsend.com/school)  
 Preferred School # 9000-8838-6  
*Catalogs are also available in the school office.*

**French Toast:** 800-373-6248  
[www.FrenchToast.com](http://www.FrenchToast.com)  
*Catalogs are also available in the school office.*

### Important Dress Code Notes!

- Each student must have at least one shirt or blouse with a WCA logo for field trips. Lands' End is the only vendor with our logo artwork, so shirts with a logo must be purchased from L.E.
- Dress code pants are chino style only. All pockets are inside (**NO pockets stitched onto the outside of the pants**). Seams are single stitched. No ornamentation of any kind. Refer to the Lands' End website for chino style pants.
- \*Cobalt Blue and \*Maize Yellow are specific to Lands' End and cannot be purchased through any other vendor.
- We recognize that the same styles may also be available from other sources. Only items that match in color and style from other sources are acceptable.
- The only sweaters and sweatshirts that students may wear in class are from the dress code list.
- Be sure to use the school's Preferred School Number (9000-8838-6) when ordering and Land's End will donate 3% of our net sales back to Westlake.

### T O P S

	<u><b>COLORS</b></u>	<u><b>NOTES</b></u>
<b>Polo shirts</b>	White, Navy, Light Blue Cobalt Blue* or Maize*	long, short, or ¾ length sleeves
<b>Button-down shirts</b>	White, oxford blue	long, short or ¾ length sleeves
<b>Turtlenecks</b>	White, Navy, Cobalt Blue* or Maize*	regular or mock turtleneck
<b>Sweaters</b>	White, Navy, Maize*	Lands' End 'Drifter crewneck, v-neck, cardigan, vest, or fine gauge crew /cardigan twinset
<b>Hoodies</b>	Navy	Order only through WCA or L.E. <u>with logo</u>
<b>Polartec fleece</b>	Navy or Cobalt Blue*	vest or jacket

### B O T T O M S

	<u><b>COLORS</b></u>	<u><b>NOTES</b></u>
<b>Pants</b>	Navy or Khaki	<b>Chino Style</b> (NOo pockets stitched on outside)
<b>Capri pants</b>	Navy or Khaki	<b>Chino Style</b> (NO pockets stitched on outside)
<b>Shorts</b>	Navy or Khaki	<b>Chino Style</b> / length: mid-thigh or longer
<b>Jumpers and Skirts</b>	Navy, Khaki, hunter/classic plaid (L.E.) or green plaid (French Toast)	length: at the top of the kneecap or longer
<b>Skorts</b>	Navy or Khaki	length: at the top of the kneecap or longer.

## General Dress Code Guidelines

In describing the dress code, it is our desire to write in the positive stating what clothing and accessories are allowed rather than trying to state all that isn't acceptable. However, sometimes aspects are best understood by providing illustrations or examples of what is excluded. The following points include both permitted and excluded aspects of the dress code.

- 1) Shirts and blouses that have straight-cut hems may be un-tucked. If the shirt or blouse has tails then it should be tucked in.
- 2) Acceptable footwear would be athletic shoes, dress shoes, clogs or dress sandals. Wheelies, flip-flops, Crocs, or sport sandals are not acceptable.
- 3) For health reasons, socks or stockings are encouraged to be worn with all styles of shoes except for dress sandals.
- 4) Socks or stocking are to be plain, one color complementing the school dress code.
- 5) Every student should have at least one shirt with a WCA logo. Shirts with a logo are to be worn on field trips and school events that take place away from the school unless otherwise directed.
- 6) The wearing of clothing should be neat and clean. Clothing which is ill fitting, tight, baggy, saggy, patched, faded, tattered, frayed or torn is inappropriate.
- 7) Clothing must keep mid-driffs covered at all times.
- 8) The outer garment should be the only visible garment. Garments worn underneath should not be visible; (i.e. multi-layered clothing).
- 9) Outerwear, such as jackets, coats, non-dress boots, ski pants, is not to be worn in the classroom. Skirts may not be worn with pants and leggings underneath.
- 10) Undergarments are not to be visible; boxer shorts, bra straps, underwear, etc.
- 11) Styles, extremes or fads, which draw undue attention to one's self are not acceptable. This would apply to hair, clothing or jewelry.
- 12) Hats, caps, bandanas, sunglasses are not appropriate in the classroom during the school day.
- 13) Symbols, slogans, illusions, pictures, words, etc., which promote behaviors, lifestyles, philosophies, or principles which would be illegal, in poor taste, unwise or in opposition to Biblical standards are not acceptable.
- 14) The wearing of tattoos or tattoo type artwork, permanent or temporary (henna, ink pen, marker), is not acceptable once enrolled. The addition of tattoos during school breaks, including summer break, is not acceptable. Permanent tattoos already in place upon enrollment of a new student must be kept covered during the school day and for all school activities both on and off campus.
- 15) Body piercing for guys or girls, other than earrings for girls, are not acceptable.

16) Over the years, cargo pants has become baggy and casual. Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year pants having pockets on the outside (like cargo pants/shorts) will no longer meet the dress code. Please plan your purchases accordingly.

The administration reserves the right to restrict any clothing or style which it considers inconsistent with the dress code, biblical principles or is not conducive to an academic atmosphere.

### **Guidelines Specific to Ladies or Men**

#### For Ladies

- Hair is to be kept clean and well groomed.
- Hair color is to be of a natural hair color.
- Styles, extremes or fads, which draw undue attention to one's self are not acceptable.
- Skirts or dresses must be no shorter than the top of the kneecap.

#### For Men

- Hair is to be kept clean and well groomed.
- Hair color is to be of a natural hair color.
- Boys' hair must be cut so that it is
  - off the collar
  - off the eyebrows
  - no longer than mid-ear
- Sideburns should be neatly trimmed and must be no longer than the bottom of the ear.
- Male students must be clean-shaven.
- Pony tails are not acceptable.
- Styles, extremes or fads, which draw undue attention to one's self are not acceptable.

### **Elementary Modifications**

1. Elementary students may wear Crocs or sports sandals which include a heel strap.
2. Elementary girls are to wear shorts under skirts and jumpers.

### **Dress for Physical Education**

Students in grades 5 – 12 are required to wear a WCA PE shirt for physical education classes. Socks and gym shoes with non-marking soles are also required. A specific short is not required though shorts should be loose enough for flexible activities and long enough to be modest.

### **Dress for Field Trips**

For most field trips regular school dress is appropriate. Shirts with a school logo are expected. Field trips where other attire is more appropriate will receive specific instructions from the teacher.

## **Dress for Public Performance or Public Leadership**

Students who are performing or leading in a public setting are expected to have an appearance commensurate with their role. In these instances, the faculty member, advisor or administration will provide specific instructions regarding appropriate dress for the event. These standards would apply to events such as special assemblies, chapels, performances on or off campus, and awards ceremonies. In general:

- Appearance should be neat and professional,
- Casual attire, such as jeans, t-shirts, and sneakers would not be appropriate and,
- When a student is a part of a group, the appearance should be as uniform as possible.

## **Dress for Formal Events**

Special events (such as; concerts, Spring Fling, Homecoming Court) deserve special forms of clothing in order to help set them apart from the ordinary. The following special guidelines are designed to help create an appropriate atmosphere with a Christian distinction for such events.

- Gentlemen would wear a dress shirt, dress slacks, dress shoes and a tie or sport coat. Suits or tuxedos may also be acceptable.
- Ladies would wear a dress or skirt and blouse. Formal dresses must be modest. Designs, which are see-through, sheer, low-cut, backless or short, are not appropriate wear. Students may be requested to bring their attire to school for approval before the event.

## **Extra-curricular, Dress Down Days and Activities On or Off Campus**

Clothing should also be appropriate for the activity or event. The type of extra-curricular event usually dictates the appropriate type of clothing to be worn. Attendance at sporting events would imply a different type of clothing than attendance at a concert or awards program would. Participants in the event would be provided guidelines regarding the style of clothing for them to wear. As representatives to the larger community we desire to portray an attractiveness that reflects positively on Jesus Christ, Westlake Christian Academy and ourselves as individuals.

Adhering to the following expectations can make these days fun and enjoyable for students and faculty.

- In general students may wear jeans, athletic pants, t-shirts and athletic shoes.
- During the school day all clothing must be neat and clean without rips, patches, frayed or ragged hems. For most events and activities outside the school day, WCA is open to students having frayed hems on their pants (jeans) as is the current style.
- Logos/icons and messages on clothing which are contrary to biblical or WCA standards are not acceptable.
- Colored t-shirts with or without logos, etc., are acceptable and may be un-tucked. White undershirts and tank tops are not acceptable.
- Girls' skirts/dresses must still be to the top of the knee.
- Hats are acceptable for the day.
- WCA standards for modesty apply.
- For WCA spirit day(s) only: Temporary spray coloring of hair (not dyeing) or temporary face painting is acceptable for the day (i.e. yellow or blue for a WCA spirit day). These days will be announced in advance.

It is our desire at Westlake Christian Academy that we teach discernment and responsibility to our students. To do so, we allow them to make choices within a frame such as this, trusting that they will choose wisely. However, should a style not be acceptable, the student will be asked to correct it.