

Independence Classical Academy

Dress Code Policy

2023-24 Academic Year

Purpose

A school dress code policy is crucial to a successful classical school, accomplishing three key goals. First, it diminishes the burden of thinking about clothing and fashion that can become all-encompassing for many students and removes distractions in the classroom and redoubles focus on the task at hand. Second, it helps students take school more seriously, by acknowledging through dress that we respect fellow classmates, teachers, and the common enterprise of education. Third, it develops school identity and pride. All students are therefore expected to adhere to the following dress code policy.

When questions about aspects of the dress code arise, the student is expected to follow the general and leading spirit of the policy, which is to diminish distractions, show respect, and elevate the tenor of the school.

Dress Code Details

Any school dress code issues not specifically addressed in this uniform policy will be resolved considering school spirit, with final discretion lying with the school administration.

Temporary exceptions to the clothing requirements of this policy may be granted by administration for hardship. Upon request, reasonable accommodations in the dress code policy shall be made for students with disabilities at the discretion of the administration. Specific questions can be directed to the front office, and an administrator will make ultimate decision on permissibility.

All Students

- No prints or words larger than a quarter (other than the official ICA logo) are allowed.
- Shirts must be in one of the following colors ONLY: Red, White, or Navy Blue*
- Shirt logos (no larger than a quarter) other than the ICA logo are permissible *on the chest only*.
- Jeans may be worn with **any** ICA approved color polo with or without ICA logo on any day (and/or spirit shirt on *Spirit Days only*).*
- Shirts must be always tucked in while on campus.
- No cargo pants or cargo shorts are allowed.
- Belts must be worn with all pants and shorts. Belts should be solid black or brown.
- Students must *always* be neat and tidy in appearance.
- Socks should be white, black, or navy in solid colors (no prints).
- Uniform style pants/shorts/skorts/dresses must be khaki/tan ONLY. No other colors/patterns.*
- Shoes must be closed-toe, close-heeled, rubber sole, and no heels higher than 1 inch.
- Shoes may not be brightly colored (i.e. fluorescent, neon, etc..)*
- No hats are allowed inside the school (winter hats for outdoor use permitted **only** during winter months).
- Jackets must be ICA approved uniform outerwear item purchased through school uniform vendor.
- For safety and security reasons, **no hoodies are permitted to be worn on campus indoors OR outdoors**.
- No visible tattoos/body art or piercings, other than stud earrings for girls.
- No gauge earrings are allowed; no dangling earrings are allowed; all other visible piercings must be removed during school.
- Jeans may not have rips, frays, or tears. May not be acid-washed or colored. Traditional jeans only will be permitted. No flair jeans. Some “bling” on rear pockets for girls are permitted. Jeans for both boys and girls should be traditional blue denim only, NOT black.*
- Button up, Oxford style shirts (long or short sleeve) are permitted in lieu of polo style (in same

colors as polo shirts).

- The first Friday of each month is Spirit Day, students will be permitted to wear ICA club/activity shirts on this day **only** (with or without jeans).*
- NO “holster style” belt clips permitted (i.e. for pocketknives, multi-tools, phone cases, etc...) at ICA;
- No earbuds, smartwatches, or other Bluetooth enabled devices are permitted at any time. We are a technology-free campus.
- Undergarments should not be visible during school hours at any time including school events and fieldtrips.
- All students who participate in PE will need to dress in PE uniform **only** on PE days, to be purchased through the school vendor. Shoes on PE days should be athletic style shoes (sneakers).
- Shorts/Skort/Dresses must be no higher than 3” above the knee, and not fall below the knee.*

Boys

- Hair should be neatly styled; hair color should be natural and not distracting and must not fall below the shoulder.

Girls

- No jeggings or leggings will be permitted at ICA.
- No make-up in grades K-5th. Make-up, when used for middle school should be natural looking.
- Hair should be neatly styled. Hair color should be natural & not distracting.

Spirit Wear

Spirit Wear is not part of the school uniform but can be worn outside of school to show support for the school, or on designated **school spirit days only**. Volunteers will often wear Spirit Wear when serving at the school. Spirit Wear can be purchased by parents and supporters of Independence Classical Academy through our vendor through the school store.

Backpacks, Book Bags, and Lunch Boxes

Backpacks, book bags, and lunch boxes are not considered to be a part of the school uniform. However, they are expected to be clean, in good condition and appropriate for a school environment. Backpacks and bags shall not include any items which detract from the school’s orderly and disciplined environment. Nothing is permitted to dangle from or be attached to backpacks or lunchboxes at ICA.

Independence Classical Academy Crest Embroidery

If students would like to purchase items with the ICA crest embroidered, it must be purchased through the school’s provider (Wheeler’s Depot) through the online store. ALL logo’s, mascots, school crest, and design aspects as they relate to ICA or the Anglers name, are intellectual property of Independence Classical Academy and no rights are given for the use or reproduction of same.

Volunteers

Volunteers should abide by the spirit of the uniform policy. Attire is expected to be safe, modest, and not distracting to students and staff. Guidelines for students’ garment lengths are to be followed by volunteers.

Exemptions/Hardships

The only exemptions to this policy are for religious purposes only. Families wanting exceptions for financial hardships may speak with administration discreetly for assistance.

*Indicates a change in policy from 22/23 school year. Please contact the front office with any questions.

