



Redwood Christian Middle School & High School

1000 Paseo Grande, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Office: 510-317-8990

Fax: 510-278-5064

www.rcs.edu

2017-2018 Dress Code

INTRODUCTION

- We hope the following guidelines will help you understand and commit to the overall attitude we desire of our students, which is to cheerfully comply to the Redwood Christian dress standards! The RCMSHS dress code is based upon four Biblical truths: harmony, appropriateness, humility, and modesty. It has been designed to achieve the following four goals: 1) to promote neatness and modesty; 2) to encourage the attitude that school is a place of instruction rather than play; 3) to enhance safety during the school day; and 4) to promote school spirit and enthusiasm. By maintaining a standard of dress, we hope to encourage our students to learn how to make appropriate dress choices as Ambassadors for Christ, representing Him in all we do.
- **All dress code standards will be in effect while students are on campus, on field trips, or at any other school related functions.**
- ***The administration reserves the right to make the final decision in regard to any questionable student dress or appearance.***

Please ask these questions when selecting clothing and hairstyles:

- Is it immodest (I John 2:15-17)?
- Might my appearance be disruptive to learning by calling attention to itself?
- Does my appearance identify with a negative counter-cultural group or a rebellious element of society?
- Does the clothing present a health or safety hazard?
- Is the clothing faded from washing, worn, or improperly fitted?
- Is the clothing designed for a purpose other than school wear?
- If the answer is "yes" to any of the above, then the attire or appearance is not acceptable for school.

A NOTE TO PARENTS

In keeping with the agreement between the RCS and the family during the application process, RCS expects that:

- parents teach their children the importance of dressing modestly and professionally;
- parents will monitor compliance before their children leave home.
- parents and students will work to prevent the dress code from becoming a major issue;

- students will happily comply with the dress code. We, as adults, know that criticism creates a spirit of unrest in children. We acknowledge that much of the dress code is institutional preference, therefore, the Redwood Christian School Board has set the dress standard that all who attend RCS have agreed to follow.

GENERAL CLOTHING INFORMATION

- All clothing must be modest, neat and clean in appearance without frays, holes, or rips, and free from slogans, pictures, logos, etc. which are inconsistent with RCS philosophy.
- The following are not permitted:
 - ◆ Clothing that mimics negative counter-cultural fads, gang attire, bandanas, long belts and oversized apparel.
 - ◆ Camouflage of any color.
 - ◆ Overalls, sweat pants, oversized, sagging, or tight pants.
 - ◆ Tank tops or sleeveless style shirts.
 - ◆ Leggings and thermal underwear worn as outer garments.
 - ◆ Beach wear.
 - ◆ Tattoos or chains.
 - ◆ New Age, occult, spiked, or stud-style jewelry.
- Piercings are not to be worn by boys at any RCS functions.
- Girls may only wear piercings in the ear at RCS functions.
- All baseball style caps, beanies, and other hats, including sweatshirt hoods are to be removed when inside a building.

SHIRTS AND TOPS

- All students must wear a shirt (for purposes of this pamphlet, "shirt" also means a "blouse") that has a fold-over collar or wear an administration approved RCS spirit t-shirt (JOG, class, club, athletic, etc), or wear an administration approved pull-over hoodie sweatshirt.
- Shirts must have sleeves.
- Shirts may not be tight-fitting.
- Shirts may not be pulled to the back and secured with elastic bands or clips.
- A school-acceptable shirt must be worn under all sweaters and sweatshirts.
- All shirts with fold-over collars must be buttoned up to the second button. Only the very top button may be undone.

- Girls may not show cleavage.
- All shirts must be long enough to be tucked in even when arms are raised.
- Shirts longer than your finger tips when your arms are extended must be tucked in.
- Boys t-shirts worn as undergarments may not fall lower than their shirt.

PANTS AND SHORTS

- Students may wear pants, jeans or walking/Bermuda shorts with pockets and belt loops (not running or athletic shorts) year-round.
- Pants, jeans and shorts are to be neat and clean, without holes, and may not be frayed in any way.
- The waist of the pants or shorts must be around the waist, not the hips, and undergarments may not be visible.
- Boys must wear a belt at all times.
- Pants, jeans or shorts may not be so tight that they are immodest.

DRESSES AND SKIRTS (Girls only)

- Hems must be 4" from the floor when kneeling.
- Slits must also be no more than 4" from the floor when kneeling.
- Split skirts may be worn provided they meet the length requirement and are full enough to look like a skirt.
- Proper undergarments should be worn at all times.

SHOES

- Students are to wear shoes at all times.
- Shoes, like all other clothing must be neat & clean in appearance.
- Open-toed shoes must have a strap around the heel.
- No beach wear is allowed, including flip-flops.
- Dress sandals must have a strap that goes around the heel.

HAIR

- Hair must be trim and neat in appearance, balanced and uniform in cut.
- Hairstyles that mimic negative counter-cultural, rock, or punk styles may not be worn.
- Coloring hair in an unnatural shade or color is not permitted.
- The natural length of boys' hair may not be lower than: 1) the top of the collar; 2) the eye brow; 3) the bottom of the ear.
- Sideburns may not be lower than the bottom of the ear.
- 6th through 11th grade boys are to be clean shaven.
- 12th grade boys are allowed to have facial hair following the senior picture being taken and up to but not including High School Graduation.

- Facial hair on 12th grade boys must be neat and trim in appearance, balanced and uniform in length.

FORMAL

- **Ladies:** Dresses must be modest, i.e. **four inches** from the floor when kneeling (knee length when standing), not backless, and not showing cleavage. Slits are permitted provided they meet the length requirement. Sleeveless dresses are fine provided that undergarments are not visible. A strapless dress can be worn with a jacket, not a wrap, over it during the banquet.
- **Men:** dress shoes, dress pants, dress belt, dress shirt, dress tie, and dress coat.

ENFORCEMENT

- A student who is in violation of the dress code will be notified by the appropriate Dean that he or she has been issued a demerit. If a student feels that his or her clothing is not in violation of the dress code, then he or she may speak to the Dean the day the citation is given.
- The first, second, and third dress citations of the quarter will result in students having to "fix" the outfit. The fourth and following will result in demerits.
- The Dean will require a change of clothes if the attire is not appropriate.
- Please contact Mr. Hearne, the RCMSHS Principal, with any questions at 510-317-8990.

A NOTE TO PARENTS

We are thankful for the partnership we have with our families and it is our desire that the dress code does not become a distraction with our students and families. In keeping with the agreement between the RCS and the family during the application process, RCS expects that:

- parents teach their children the importance of dressing modestly and professionally.
- parents will monitor compliance before their children leave home.
- parents and students will work to prevent the dress code from becoming a major issue;
- students will happily comply with the dress code.

We, as adults, know that criticism creates a spirit of unrest in children and it is not our desire to embitter the children entrusted to our care with the dress code. We acknowledge that much of the dress code is institutional preference; therefore, the Redwood Christian School Board has set the dress standard based upon the Biblical principles of harmony, appropriateness, humility, and modesty. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mr. Warner, the MSHS Principal at 510-317-8990.

This Dress Code was Approved by the RCS School Board in June 2009.