

## Dress and Hair Code

The key words in describing what are acceptable as school clothing are: modesty and neatness. Students should avoid clothing that is sloppy, baggy, clingy, or tight fitting. Dressing appropriately is a part of the disciplined life that God requires from each of us. I Timothy 2:9 speaks about modest apparel for women; I Corinthians 11 speaks about hair. Close study of such passages teaches us that immodesty is an indication of an inward heart condition. I Samuel 16:7 says "...for man looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh on the heart." For these reasons, standards of modesty and neatness will be applied to the dress and hair code for both male and female students.

It is admitted that many of the standards have little to do with issues of "right or wrong." The standards become an attempt to establish some uniformity in dress and hairstyles and to teach responsibility. There is no desire to place undue hardship on parents, and for that reason, we have updated the handbook to reflect a more relaxed dress code. However, reasonableness will still be applied, and the principles of modesty will be applied to young men and women alike. Therefore, the support of parents is sought in the matter of dress. Both the principal and the faculty are willing to discuss matters of dress and hairstyles with those who inquire.

### 1. GENERAL

All students are to be neatly dressed, a sloppy appearance is unacceptable and must abide by SLA's school uniform guidelines. Worldly slogans or advertising is not permitted. Writing in general is not permitted. **No partisan or political clothing** (US flags or stars & stripes are fine). Small manufacturer logos are acceptable (about the length and width of a thumb). Students must be in dress code for school trips and extra-curricular activities unless otherwise noted or authorized. All school functions, church and school programs, any trips off-campus, athletic events, and while on campus before and after school are included.

We reserve the right to add policies on new fads/changes throughout the school year as issues arise.

### 2. BOYS—GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. No body piercings are allowed on boys.
2. No jewelry except for rings and watches are permitted.
3. If a boy needs a haircut, a note may be sent home with a reasonable amount of time allotted to get one.
4. Hair must be neat and well groomed. Hair should not be in the student's eyes. Dreadlocks or mohawks are not permitted.
5. Hair must not touch the top of the ears, collar, or eyebrows and have a reasonable degree of taper and thinning completely around.
6. Hair should be a natural color and neatly combed.
7. Sideburns may not be longer than the middle of the ear.'
8. Shoes must have backs and be appropriate for play. No roller wheels.
9. No beards or mustaches. Boys must be clean-shaven at all times.
10. Young men may be asked to shave at school in the bathroom if they come to school unshaven.
11. Clothes should not be excessively wrinkled.
12. No camouflage.
13. No hats worn in school.
14. Students are not to write or draw on themselves or other students.
15. No hoods may be worn on head in class.

16. Students should not get tattoos while attending SLA. Any old tattoos should be covered.
17. No temporary tattoos.

#### SHIRTS

1. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday are normal school days. On these days young men are permitted to wear polos (collared shirts). They may be any color or design, but should not have writing as mentioned in the General Guidelines.
2. Shirts are to be buttoned and tucked in at all times.
3. No t-shirts, tight shirts, or jerseys may be worn (except for spirit days or other approved exceptions.)
4. A sweater or sweatshirt may be worn (and may have writing on the front, provided it does not break any of the general guidelines) AS LONG AS there is a dress code approved shirt underneath. Outer coverings may be any color or pattern, but again, they should not break the general guidelines about slogans and logos.
5. Wednesdays are chapel days. These are “dress-up” days. On these days, young men should wear dress shirts and a tie or bow tie. The shirts should not have writing, but may be any color or pattern. The same is true for tie and/or bow tie. No writing, but patterns and pictures are allowed.
6. Fridays are casual day. On Fridays, young men may wear SLA t-shirts. If they do not have an SLA t-shirt or t-shirt of SLA colors, they must wear a polo as on a normal school day.

#### PANTS

1. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday young men should wear dress pants. These may be any color EXCEPT DENIM.
2. Pants should fit properly. They should not be too long, short, not too tight, or oversized.
3. Pants must be worn on the waist.
4. Pants that have belt loops must have a belt. Pants without loops should fit secure around waist and not sag.
5. Pants should be in good condition with no fraying or holes.
6. No shorts are allowed except in PE during class or participating in a sport practice or event.
7. On Fridays, young men may wear denim pants (blue jeans). They should still wear a belt.
8. No athletic pants are permitted unless otherwise authorized for travel or spirit days. This includes sweatpants, wind pants, and joggers.

#### ELEMENTARY BOYS (K3-6th Grade)

1. Elementary boys may wear denim all week. But no shorts.
2. They should wear a belt if their pants have loops.
3. They should wear polos Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. These may be any pattern or color. (No writing or political messages) Fridays, they may wear SLA t-shirts or SLA color t-shirts.
4. Their shirts should be tucked in at all times.
5. If they would like to bring a pair of shorts for their PE day, they may change into them and then back into school attire before returning to class.
6. All other rules apply.

#### 3. GIRLS—GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Hair should be neat and maintained. Hairstyles should be conservative and out of the eyes.
2. Hair should be a natural color.

3. Jewelry should be worn in good taste.
4. Earrings may be worn in the lobe only. No other body piercings are allowed.
5. No hats should be worn in school.
6. No roller wheels or Crocs or beach shoes.
7. No thong flip flops (single strap, between-the-toe). Sandals and similar dress shoes are permitted.

#### SHIRTS

1. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday girls are permitted to wear polos or blouses. These may be any color or pattern but should not have any writing. They may have designs like flowers, animals, fruits, etc. They should not have inappropriate images or political messages and images. The shirts should be dressy/business casual blouses.
2. Shirts should adequately cover the waistline and should not expose the midriff while the student is performing normal school related activities.
3. No athletic t-shirts, crop tops, short tops, spaghetti straps, cold shoulder sleeve, or sleeveless.
4. Cap sleeves are allowed.
5. Fridays are casual days. Girls may wear SLA t-shirts or school color t-shirts.
6. Shirts should not be lower than 3 finger width from the collarbone. They should not be revealing.
7. Shirts should fit loosely and not cup or accentuate the body in any way.

#### SKIRTS

1. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday girls may wear any color skirt, including denim.
2. Wednesdays are chapel days and therefore dress up days. Girls may not wear denim on this day.
3. Skirts should be to the middle of the knee when standing. Top of the knee when sitting, walking, etc.
4. Skirts should be loose enough to pull away from the body. They should not cup or accentuate in any way.
5. Dresses are allowed, permitting they are modest in all guidelines. Long enough at the knee, loose enough on the body, and high enough at the top. They should either cover the shoulder, or a sweater may be worn.

#### ELEMENTARY (K3-6th Grade)

1. Elementary girls may wear denim all week. But no shorts or pants.
2. They should wear blouses Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. These may be any pattern or color. (No writing or political messages. Any pictures or images are fine.) Fridays, they may wear SLA t-shirts or SLA color t-shirts.
3. If they would like to bring a pair of shorts for their PE day, they may change into them and then back into school attire before returning to class.
4. All other rules apply.

Dress Code Violations will be dealt with using the demerit system. We reserve the right to ask students to change or have a change of clothes brought to them if they are immodest or out of code. Administration will have a final authority on all matters of dress and hair codes.

Our desire is to have a comfortable and feasible dress code that is not a burden or added expense to the parent. We believe this is reflected in the updates. With that being said, it is trial and error. These are changes that can be reverted or amended if we find that students do not respect the code. It is not our aim to “relax” the dress code, but instead to teach students about personal modesty and responsibility by giving them options about what they wear. We

want the students of SLA to look put together and neat and also be able to express their personality within the guidelines of our dress code.