

2018-19 Dress Code

The Independence student should maintain a traditional, non-fad appearance, with neatness and cleanliness in mind at all times. It is our belief that students should dress differently for school than for outside play. For example, jeans, pants, and shorts made of blue denim are too casual for school wear. When questions arise as to what is and what is not in dress code, the faculty and administration reserve the right to make the final decision.

GENERAL GUIDELINES - ALL STUDENTS

Yes

- Shoes, sneakers, and boots in good repair, laces tied, and properly worn (with back straps, no slip-ons)
- Properly sized clothing/pants worn near the waist
- Shorts of an appropriate length (no more than 4 inches above the knee) may be worn through November 30 and beginning March 1
- Cargo pants or cargo shorts may be worn
- Sweaters
- Independence School Store apparel such as shirts, polos, crew neck sweatshirts, and fleece zip-ups or pullovers are permitted. (This does not include hoodies, sweatpants, tank tops, Summer Camp t-shirts, and jackets - including team outerwear.)
- Belts with clothes designed with belt loops (**grades 4-8**)

- For P.E. - **ECII-grade 3** wear regular dress code outfits. If not wearing sneakers, they must be brought for P.E. **Grades 4-8** wear school-designated P.E. uniforms.

No

- No backless shoes, open-toed shoes, sandals, or Crocs, etc.
- No shirts with lettering, advertisements, or pictures (characters such as superheroes, cartoon characters, princesses, etc.) Shirts may be adorned with flowers, hearts, trucks, etc.
- No military or hunting apparel of any color
- No blue jean clothing of any type
- No sweatshirts*
- No hooded sweatshirts or outerwear worn inside at any time
- No frayed hems or distressed materials/clothing
- No halter tops or dresses, spaghetti strap tops or dresses, or sleeveless or backless tops or dresses
- No athletic apparel (including compression shirts) - except preapproved INDY team apparel
- No visible body art, writing, or body piercings (except for girls' pierced ears - limit 2)
- No dyed hair of an excessively bright or an unnatural color or hair designs (shaving or hair tattoos)

* Independence School t-shirts, polos, crew neck sweatshirts, and fleece tops are permitted. (This does not include the PE uniform, hoodies, and tank tops.)

Children go outside at different times of the day. Weather conditions change, and this may require parents to dress their children in layers. Children are given the opportunity to regulate what they wear outside, as each child's body is different.

LOWER SCHOOL GUIDELINES

BOYS

Yes

- Collared shirts, crew necks, long and short sleeved
- Shirts tucked in at all times in **grade 4**
- Hair cut no longer than mid-ear and above the eyes and collar

No

- No earrings or multiple necklaces

GIRLS

Yes

- Collared tops or crewnecks that are not revealing
- Skirts, dresses, and shorts no more than 4 inches above the knee
- Tops may be worn out if they are designed to do so and if they are long enough to cover the midriff
- During the months of December, January and February, legs must be covered by either tights or leggings when wearing skirts or dresses.

No

- No makeup
- No knit pants/leggings worn as pants; **acceptable with finger length dress, skirt, or closed tunic**
- No excessive jewelry

MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDELINES

BOYS

Yes

- Shirts with true collars
- Shirts tucked in at all times

No

- No earrings or multiple necklaces
- No hair over the eyes, mid-ear, or collar

GIRLS

Yes

- Collared tops or crewnecks with a true sleeve and that do not reveal skin at the waist or cleavage
- Skirts, dresses, and shorts no more than 4 inches above the knee
- Shirts designed to be worn out
- During the months of December, January and February, legs must be covered by either tights or leggings when wearing skirts or dresses.

No

- No knit pants/leggings worn as pants; **acceptable with finger length dress, skirt, or closed tunic**
- No low-rider pants
- No excessive jewelry
- No excessive makeup

The school will consider clothing designed to resemble any of the above-mentioned violations as a dress code violation. An example could include knit pants that were made to look like blue jeans. Homeroom teachers will keep a record of dress code violations, though any school employee may report them. An accumulation of two violations will earn the student a Behavioral Concern Notice and the accompanying detention. Violations may include wearing the proper clothing improperly, as well as wearing inappropriate clothing. In the case of serious concerns, parents may be called to supply appropriate replacement clothing.