

Dress Code

Philosophy

The Friendswood Independent School District (FISD) maintains dress and grooming standards because it believes that students who dress and groom themselves in a manner considered acceptable and appropriate by the community

will become more responsible citizens of the community. FISD believes that the business of school is student learning and that school dress and grooming standards should support that purpose and should also promote a safe, orderly learning environment. Further, FISD believes that one worthwhile goal of a comprehensive education is learning that different situations require different modes of dress and behavior. School is a place of business, not a social club. Therefore, the dress and grooming of a student should reflect the serious intent of one who is going to work with an important job to do. Accordingly, dress and grooming standards should promote a businesslike atmosphere that is comfortable but not too casual, free from disruption, easily enforced by teachers and administrators so as to not take away from instruction, and is easily self-monitored so that students and parents can ensure that the standards are met prior to the student coming to school. Each student and parent shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the standards presented in this Manual.

Parent and Student Responsibility

The parent and student shall be responsible for ensuring that the student is in compliance with all aspects of this Code when the student enters the school premises, and during the time the student is on school premises during regular school hours. Items worn in violation of this Code will be taken up by a school official and returned to the parent if the parent comes to the school and requests the return of the item.

Principal is the Final Authority

The Board delegates to the principal the authority to make final determinations as to whether clothing or grooming is or is not within this Code. The ruling of the building principal regarding compliance or non-compliance with the Dress Code and corresponding consequences assigned for violation of this Code is final, and may not be appealed to the Superintendent, his designee, or the Board. In keeping with the FISD belief statements, each person is unique and has the right to pursue beliefs of their own choice. We also believe that individuals are responsible for their own actions and that growth and development are enhanced by family and individuals who provide love, security, and a sense of belonging. We care about our students, their cleanliness and neatness, and their dress, as well as their learning environment.

The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standard, provided that the student's dress and grooming:

- A. Shall not lead school officials reasonably to believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from school activities. A modest appearance must be maintained when standing, sitting, or bending.
- B. Shall not create a health or other hazard to student's safety or to the safety of others.
- C. Shall comply with the following guidelines:
 1. Non-wheeled shoes are to be worn at all times.
 2. Student's dress and grooming should be neat and appropriate for their age group and school activities.
 3. Clothing is to be modest and conform to the standards established for the appropriate school attire. Students are to wear appropriate undergarments.
 4. Hair should be clean and neatly groomed. It should not be colored or styled in any way that is distracting to the learning environment.
 - a. Hair color must be natural.
 - b. Curlers are not acceptable.
 - c. Mohawk type haircuts are not permitted.
 - d. No facial hair.

5. Walking shorts or skirts must be in close proximity to the knee.
6. Sleeveless shirts are not acceptable for boys or girls.
7. Any clothing or accessory that may be deemed to represent gang affiliation, real or implied, is not permitted. Any clothing or accessory, which may be deemed to be offensive or degrade any student population, is not permitted. This includes any Gothic style dress/clothing.
8. Shirts/blouses that fit properly and do not hang below the top of the back pocket when worn properly at the waist may be un-tucked. No see through shirts or fishnet tops.
9. Pants must fit at the waist, with or without a belt.
10. Permanent or non-permanent tattoos cannot be visible.
11. Pierced body parts other than the ear are not acceptable for either male or female students. Eyebrow, nose and tongue rings will be removed. Plugs, tunnels, and spacers are not permitted.
12. Students will not wear:
 - a. Clothing, jewelry, heavy chains, or trinkets that are: noisy and distracting; occult-related; or that advertise sex, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or any product related to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or sex. Students may not wear suggestive or inappropriately located decorative patches, insignia, or clothing with improper advertising, pictures, slogans or statements.
 - b. Clothing that in any way would suggest disrespect for the American flag.
 - c. Headbands, bandanas, and hats inside the building. All of these items will be confiscated and not returned. This applies to all students, male and female. Head covers may not be worn or brought in the building.
 - d. Clothing that does not adequately cover the body: Low cut, see-through, spaghetti-strap, and tube tops without a blouse. Cut-offs and jeans with tears above the knees will not be permitted. Midriffs are to be covered. No hooded sweatshirts should be worn with the hood on inside the building.
 - e. Heavy chains, animal collars, chokers that look like animal collars, or locks.
 - f. Long, tight leggings unless the top meets dress code length for skirts/shorts.**
 - g. Spandex, biking shorts, and similar apparel (except those that are school sponsored and appropriate setting).
 - h. Oversized or excessively baggy clothes.
 - i. Trench coats or coats that resemble trench coats.
 - j. Pajamas of any type.
 - k. Fishnets on arms/legs.
 - l. Any clothing deemed inappropriate for the educational setting by the administration or staff.