



DRESS CODE

The Toombs County Middle School dress code requires students to dress in a manner conducive to maintaining an academic focus. In the selection of school attire, parents and students should exercise good taste and good judgment. Many “fads” in dress are not appropriate for school. Therefore, student dress should reflect acceptable standards of neatness and modesty and should not distract from or cause disruption to the educational process.

The administration reserves the right to determine if a student’s dress, hairstyle, etc. are too casual, too revealing, or too distracting to be considered appropriate for school.

Tops

- Long or short sleeved shirts, dress shirts, t-shirts, polo type shirts, sweaters, and sweatshirts which are size appropriate are allowed.
- Shirrtails must be below the waist line even with arms raised above the head or when the student is seated.
- Sheer fabric outer wear will not be allowed.
- Shirts with deep scooped necklines will not be allowed.
- Sleeveless shirts, halter tops, tank tops, and spaghetti straps will not be allowed.
- Jackets are permitted but may not be worn to cover inappropriate clothing. Trench coats are not permitted.

Bottoms

- Pants, khakis, jeans, capris, and athletic pants (e.g. warm-ups) that are size appropriate, worn at the waist, and are hemmed or cuffed are allowed.
- Pajama pants are not allowed.
- Shorts that are size appropriate, worn at the waist, and are hemmed or cuffed are allowed. Shorts must be no shorter than five inches from the top of the knee.
- All students must wear pants/shorts snugly enough to keep them well above the hips.
- Jumpers and overalls will be allowed.
- All pants, overalls, and jumpers must have all buttons buttoned and all fasteners fastened.
- Dresses and skirts must be no shorter than 5 inches above the knee. Slits in skirts must not extend beyond 5 inches above the knee. Dresses, skirts, or shirts worn over tights/leggings must also meet the five inch rule.

Headgear

- Headgear of any type is unacceptable. No hats, bandanas, hoods, knit caps or stocking caps may be worn **anywhere on school grounds or buses. No hats are to be worn at recess.**
- Students who wear headgear during inclement weather (outside the building or school bus) must remove it before entering the school. These items must be stored in a backpack.
- Sunglasses are not allowed.

Shoes

- Flip flops or slides of any kind are unacceptable.
- All shoes worn must be secured at the toe and heel with shoelaces tied, buckles secured, or Velcro fastened.
- Bedroom shoes of any kind are not acceptable or any shoes of extended length (clown shoes) or height (not to exceed 2 inches).

Jewelry/Accessories

- Chains hanging from pockets, dog collar-like necklaces, spiked collars, bracelets, studded anklets or belts are not permitted.
- Belts must be flat with no symbolic message on the buckle or belt.
- Gloves are not permitted.
- Only studs or conventional ear rings may be worn in the ear. The number of earrings must not exceed 4 per ear. No other accessories will be allowed for body piercing.
- All permanent tattoos must be covered unless etched on the hands or face. Temporary tattoos or other types of body painting (except moderate types of makeup and lipstick) are not allowed.

Hair

- Hair must be free of curlers, picks, or combs at all times.
- Hair must be of a **natural human color**. (*Note: The purpose of this rule is based on the disruptive/distractive nature of some hair colors. The final determination regarding school-appropriate hair color will be made by the administration.*)
- Wigs may be worn if the student is medically fragile as noted by a physician's statement, and the wig is necessary because of loss of hair.
- Hair should be kept neat and combed and should not draw excessive attention to individuals.

General Guidelines for Students:

- All clothing, bottom or tops, must have appropriate hems and no inappropriate holes, frays, rips, or tears. If pants or shorts have holes that are more than 5 inches above the knee, shorts, tights, or pants must be worn underneath so that no skin is showing.
- All clothing must be appropriately sized. No oversized or baggy garments will be allowed (for example: pants must be worn at the natural waistline and not drag the floor). Clothing should not be excessively tight or form-fitting. Bike shorts, spandex apparel, yoga pants, etc. will not be allowed unless a shirt that is no more than five inches above the knee is worn. **As with all clothing decisions, administrators will have the final say as to whether a garment is too loose or too tight.**
- All garments should cover the body in an appropriate manner and not reveal the anatomy of the person other than the head and neck, or low extremities of the arms and legs.
- No "top" or "bottom" should be the same color, except in the case of a matching pant set or suit.
- Clothing, jackets, jewelry, and accessories may not advertise anything associated with alcohol, tobacco, guns, violence, drugs, gang-related activity, sexual connotations, or any item/saying/phrase that creates a hostile or disruptive environment.
- Bandanas are not allowed at school.
- Cosmetics, including but not limited to eye make-up, nail polish and lipstick, can only be worn in a manner as to not draw excessive attention to the person.
- Proper undergarments must be worn at all times. Undergarments must not be exposed.
- In the event of a medical necessity (e.g. broken leg, 504 plan, IEP), the school or system administrator may take temporary variations in this policy.
- A new student (one who has not previously enrolled) will be allowed five school days to make arrangements to conform to the dress code.

- School administrators may alter the dress code for special occasions or extracurricular activities.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Violation of the dress code will not be allowed. Offenders will be given a verbal warning by school personnel if the student simply needs to make an adjustment in the manner in which the clothing is worn.

If school personnel observe a violation of dress code that can't be immediately corrected and a warning given, then the student will be referred to a school administrator. The administration will then determine consequences based on the severity and frequency of dress code violations. Consequences may include dress modification, parent contact to bring appropriate clothing, or ISS. A student's refusal to comply with dress code, repeated offenses, or violations of a severe nature may result in a higher degree of discipline.