

## Students

### Student Dress

The Willington Public Schools student dress code supports equitable educational access for all students. The purpose of a dress code is to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of all students. A student's appearance, including dress and grooming, must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching and learning environment, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety, security, and appropriateness. The responsibility for the dress and grooming of a student rests primarily with the student and their parents/guardians.

The Board of Education subscribes to the following values pertaining to the District's dress code and believes that the dress code should accomplish the following goals:

1. All students should be able to dress comfortably for school and engage in the educational environment without fear of unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
2. Maintain a safe learning environment in classes where protective or supportive clothing is needed, such as science classes, specialized classes (eye or body protection), or physical education.
3. Allow students to wear clothing of their choice that is comfortable, and that expresses their identity, and/or religious beliefs.
4. Prevent students from wearing clothing or accessories with offensive images, implications, or language, including profanity, criminal activity, hate speech, pornography, or depicting or advocating violence, weapons, or the use of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances.
5. Ensure that all students are treated equitably regardless of gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, body type/size, religion, and personal style.
6. Ensure the safety and security of students and staff. Individuals should be identifiable, including through the utilization of school security video equipment.

Students may wear:

- Clothing that includes both a shirt and pants/skirt, or the equivalent (dresses, leggings, yoga pants, shorts, sweatpants) and footwear.
- Shirts and/or dresses with straps.
- Shorts, pants, and/or dresses/skirts that completely cover the buttock and other private parts.
- Clothing that covers the torso, including the chest and midriff (with no open sides), that meets the top of the belt line and covers undergarments.
- Hats/headgear provided that they do not obstruct the eyes (examples including, but not limited to brimless hats, beanies, berets), worn for religious reasons, or cause a student to be unrecognizable. Hoods are not permitted.

**Student Dress (continued)**

- Shoes that are safe and appropriate for the weather, course assignments, athletics, and other conditions.

Students who represent the school/district in a voluntary activity may be required to conform to dress established by the organizer of the activity and approved by the Principal. Students will be notified of these requirements prior to the event(s) and may be denied the opportunity to participate if those requirements are not met.

Students are expected to responsibly follow the dress code set forth by the Board of Education. If a student does not follow the dress code, the administration will speak with them respectfully and privately to address the issue. Students who fail to follow the dress code will be asked to change their clothing to adhere to dress code standards. Repeat offenses may result in disciplinary action.