

Wardrobe and Grooming

In an effort to model the biblical principles of modesty, build a community where all can pursue growth and learning without distraction, and be respectful to our school environment, we have set appearance standards for Trinity Oaks Christian Academy. As a school that seeks to exist for God's glory, it is important that we meet those standards in every aspect of our school culture. Trinity Oaks strives to maintain a positive and professional learning environment. Consequently, our appearance should encourage concentrated study and should in no way distract us from the learning process. Therefore, our Wardrobe Policy is defined by two specific standards: modesty and professionalism.

Modesty

First and foremost, a student's appearance should reflect their identity as a follower of Christ. Everything we do is an expression of our relationship with God. In His Word, the Bible, God makes it clear that we are to be modest and treat our bodies with the utmost respect. Students' appearance should also reflect the Christian value of encouraging the focus on the inner self, not the outer. It is also important to note that what is "in style" is not always in accordance with the standards we seek to reflect. However, as Christians, we are called to be "different than the world." Therefore, we have some basic guidelines that we expect students will meet in accordance with these biblical standards. The standards of modesty should always be reflected in a student's dress.

Upper Garments:

- Polo-style shirts, any color without graphics or text, or turtleneck shirts/sweaters. Shirts should be worn buttoned to an appropriately modest level (top button open allowed). Long or short sleeves. (Sweaters and sweatshirts must have a collared shirt worn underneath, with the collar visible.)
- Collared shirts, any color with Peter Pan or Oxford collars, with short, ¾" or long sleeves. Button shirts should remain buttoned when worn over an undershirt.
- **Sweaters/ Sweatshirts:** Students may wear cardigans, pullovers, sweatshirts, ¼ zips, or vests in *any solid color*, as long as they are plain and non-hooded, with a collared shirt worn underneath, TOCA branded options are available through [Lands' End](#) or Spirit Wear sales and may be worn any day. Any other logos or writing must be smaller than a credit card and appropriate for TOCA. TOCA hoodies are only allowed on Spirit Wear days.
- **Tight fitting or oversized baggy** garments of any nature are not appropriate.
- Clothing should **completely cover** undergarments and **necessary parts of the body at all times** (this would include while sitting or bending over). Girls should take care to ensure tops are not plunging or revealing at the neckline. Boys and girls both should take care to wear modest clothing styles that consistently cover their midsections while standing or sitting in a normal posture. Sleeveless shirts/tops for either girls or boys are not acceptable school attire.

Lower Garments:

- **Pants:** Khaki or navy (these can be purchased from any vendor). **Twill material**, pleated front, flat front, or cargo. Pants may not be constructed of knit material. They must have pockets and should not be constructed in an overall style that is too tight or body shape revealing. Under no circumstances are leggings considered pants. All pants must sit on the natural waistline.
- **Shorts and Capris:** (May be worn 1st and 4th quarters.) Navy or khaki. Shorts may be no more than 2" above the knee in the front and back. All shorts and capris should be **twill material**.

Shorts and capris may not be constructed of knit material. They must have pockets and should not be constructed in an overall style that is too tight or body shape revealing. All shorts and capris must sit on the natural waistline.

- **Belts:** Black, navy, or brown. Required in grade 6-8 on pants that have loops for Formal Chapel.

Footwear:

- **Footwear:** Dress Shoes (black, navy, brown leather, or canvas shoes) or traditional athletic shoes. All shoes must be a full back shoe with a completely closed front. The athletic shoe may be any color. The athletic shoe cannot contain roller skates, lights, or any other devices. Boots may be worn during the second and third quarters.
- Socks must be worn with all shoes.

Professional

We want students to be comfortable, but we also expect that a Trinity Oaks student's appearance should meet basic standards. As a learning community committed to excellence, we desire to wear clothes that are appropriate and create this type of learning environment. It is important to note that these standards do not involve morality; rather they are preferences that Trinity Oaks seeks to uphold in our school community.

- **All clothing** should be clean and in good repair. Clothing with holes, patches or ragged/frayed ends may not be worn. This includes clothes that are designed with frayed/ragged ends or holes.
- Students should wear clothing as it is traditionally designed to be worn.
- **Athletic attire**, which includes shorts and sweatpants, are not acceptable outside of P.E. class, practices, or rehearsals.
- Any clothing or personal appearance that tends to call **undue attention** to the individual is not acceptable.
- **Hair** should look neat and natural. Any hairstyle, hair color, or head appearance, which includes, but is not limited to, unnatural coloring, Mohawks, or designs shaved into heads, that tends to call undue attention is not acceptable. Hair should always be out of the eyes, regardless of how it is kept or worn, neatly trimmed, and well-groomed. **Boys' hair** should be cut so that it is naturally off the collar and not below their eyebrows. However, the school does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists.
- Boys may not wear earrings to school. Tattoos or "body art" are not appropriate if visible. Piercings (including the nose, lip, eyebrow, and anything other than earrings for girls) are not appropriate. Students who have such piercings will be required to remove their body jewelry when they arrive at school or put in an invisible spacer during the school day.
- **Hats, hoods, bandanas, etc.** are not to be worn inside during the school day.
- Outerwear may not be worn in the classroom, except for wardrobe approved sweaters and sweatshirts.

Special Days

- **Formal Chapel:** 1st Day of School, Grandparents' Day, Veteran's Day, Christmas Gift Chapel, National Day of Prayer, and Honors Convocation. Additional days may be announced during the school year.
 - **Girls –**
 - [Light Blue Peter Pan or Oxford collar shirts.](#)
 - Knee-length skirt (A-line or pleated) in navy, khaki or classic navy plaid. Classic navy plaid must be purchased from [Lands' End School Catalog](#). Shorts (bike shorts, spankies, etc.) or leggings (full-length solid colored white or navy blue) must be worn under all skirts.
 - Socks must be navy blue, white or khaki. Skin colored nylons or tights (navy or white) are permitted.
 - Ballet flats are permissible without socks for formal chapel only.
 - **No athletic shoes.**
 - **Boys –**
 - White or Blue Oxford shirt
 - Tie (either traditional necktie or bowtie)
 - Navy or khaki-colored long twill pants (no shorts).
 - Belt - Black, navy, or brown. Required in grade 6-8 on pants that have loops for Formal Chapel.
 - Socks (navy blue or khaki).
 - **No athletic shoes.**
 - Shirts must be tucked in, and ties worn all day.
- **Spirit Wear Days:** Students may wear any top that is branded with Trinity Oaks on Spirit Wear Days along with wardrobe appropriate jeans or bottoms.
- **Theme Days:** Occasionally there will be special theme/jean days throughout the school year.

On Spirit Wear and Theme Days jeans may be worn only with the appropriate theme top. Jeans better defined as denim means denim pants, capris, and shorts (1st and 4th quarter only) are permissible (no denim skorts or skirts).

Jeans restrictions:

- Dark blue/indigo color only
- Straight leg or conservative boot cut – no flared, designer jeans
- No low rise/hip huggers – jeans must have a natural waistline.
- No flowers, decorative stitching or accessorizing on legs or pockets.
- Jean shorts must be a traditional cut and no more than 2" above the knee.
- No frayed, torn, patched, or jeans with holes allowed.
- No jeggings

Responsibility of Parents

- Parents should work with and guide their children to make good choices in appropriate clothing and good grooming. We expect appropriate clothing and appearance decisions to be handled at home to ensure compliance with Trinity Oaks' standards.
- Because it is updated regularly to reflect current styles and trends, parents should review and familiarize themselves with the Wardrobe Policy on an annual basis.

- Should your child's attire be deemed inappropriate, parents should expect to receive a call from the school and be prepared to bring a change of clothing.
- To set a good example for students and others who may be visiting our school, parents are respectfully requested to refrain from wearing abbreviated leisure and exercise attire, plunging necklines, halter tops, or tight and revealing clothing of any kind when visiting the school, no matter how brief the visit may be.

Enforcement

Each student will be held responsible for his/her appearance. Instances of deviation from established standards will be handled justly on an individual basis. The teacher will address the violation with the student, and the student will go to the office to call parents for a change of clothing if necessary. Should circumstances prohibit a change of clothing being brought from home, students will be provided the opportunity to look for appropriate garments in our wardrobe resale room.

Our goal at TOCA is not to inconvenience parents at home or at work during the school day, therefore parents should make themselves familiar with the Wardrobe Policy and ensure that their child is appropriately dressed before leaving home each day. Parents' support for the natural process of consequential decisions by students is greatly appreciated and helpful in the maturation process. Repeated instances of dress code violations will be seen as a sign of disrespect and will result in consequences.