

# Bellstone Christian School

## Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy

“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body” (1 Cor. 6: 19,20).

The covenantal distinctiveness of our students has implications for the expectations or standards we set not only for their behaviour, but also for their manner of dress.

Kingdom citizens should not, by virtue of their dress and/or grooming, be mistaken for worldly citizens. Our covenant children, therefore, need to appear, and be taught to appear, different from the world in their dress. Therefore the Bellstone community has adopted a uniform policy.

There are a number of aspects that a uniform policy encourages. In terms of work ethic, uniforms encourage an attitude conducive to learning as well as improved diligence in the tasks undertaken each day. In addition, a greater sense of unity and community will be felt amongst the students, especially, as they do their work at Bellstone Christian School. Furthermore, by eliminating potential fashion and name brand issues, a uniform policy encourages modesty, decency, and a spirit of equality. Modesty is an essential requirement. This means that clothing must not be distracting to others or sexually provocative.

Finally, the uniform policy provides guidelines to parents and students on appropriate attire. Parents and students who have questions about attire should ask the school administration before wearing questionable attire. It should be noted that adherence to the uniform policy is required at any school function. Examples of such functions include concerts, field trips, class outings, and representing the school at the Redeemer Science Fair.

### ACCEPTABLE DRESS

The main emphasis of the students’ dress should be clothing that is neat, clean, and in good repair.

### TOPS

- A top with an embroidered school logo must be worn on every regular school day or at any school function. These items are available to be ordered through the school from Top Marks, on a wholesale basis, several times per year: January and May. The Uniform Committee will ensure that there will be a few extra shirts in each size at the school for parents to purchase in between these times, if needed. All tops are available in navy or white. Tops are as follows:
  - Short sleeve polo shirt unisex #1006
  - Short sleeve girls polo #1015
  - Long sleeve polo shirt unisex #1005

- Long sleeve girls polo shirt #1018
- Polo zip sweatshirt (jersey knit cardigan) #1416J
- Hooded zip sweatshirt (fleece) #1420
- Polo shirts do not need to be tucked in, but they must be worn in an appropriate length/size that does not show the midriff. Students are permitted to wear t-shirts/undershirts/long sleeve shirts under their uniform but they must only be solid plain navy blue or white in colour. This can also assist in midriff modesty.

#### BOTTOMS

- Slacks, jeans, khakis, and capris are acceptable.
- Girls may wear dresses and skirts that are no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Leggings/jeggings are only permissible with dresses, skirts, and tunics that are two inches above the knees.
- All shorts must be no shorter than the longest finger when the student's hands are at his/her side.
- Cut-off shorts are not acceptable, unless hemmed neatly.
- Pants with holes in them are not acceptable.
- Oversize or low rise pants are not acceptable.
- Sweatpants, fleece pants, or sport pants are not acceptable.

#### MISC:

- Students are expected to arrive at school and leave the premises wearing their uniformed tops, unless otherwise granted permission by the principal.
- In the event of a concern regarding student dress, teachers are responsible for their own classes. However, a female teacher must be approached to assist the girls of the upper grades (5-8) in their dress. Alternatively, male teachers may be approached to assist the boys if the female teacher is uncomfortable.
- Students in grades 3-8 are expected to change into physical education clothes consisting of a gym shirt and navy blue or black loose fitting shorts or pants. The gym shirt must have a Bellstone Christian school logo on it and is to be ordered through the school from Promo Place. Ordering shorts through the school is an option, though not required.
- Hats or caps are only to be worn when outside the school and are not permitted to be worn in the school.
- Indoor shoes must be runners with non-marking soles. Outdoor shoes must be closed toed, closed heeled.
- Sandals with a back strap are permissible. Students must take their regular outdoor shoes along with them on the days they wear sandals in the event of having an outdoor physical education class.
- Girls may wear jewelry with modesty and at parental discretion. Boys are not permitted to wear earrings or necklaces.
- Piercing in the eyebrow, nose, lip, or tongue are unacceptable.

- Nail polish and make-up are unacceptable.
- Students' hair should be groomed, moderate in style, and a natural hair colour including, but not exclusive to, blonde, brown, highlights, or lowlights.
- At sports tournaments, students participating are expected to wear the school jersey and blue or black loose-fitting shorts or pants along with the proper sports attire.
- At concerts and graduation ceremonies, a dress standard that emphasizes simplicity, modesty, and decency shall be maintained. The boys generally dress in their Sunday best. The girls usually wear a dress, although dress pants are acceptable. The shoulders of a girl must be covered with material of a minimum of two adult finger widths. Backs must be covered and the bodice cut must be decent. A letter will be sent to parents of grade 8 students in October outlining this policy for the graduation ceremonies
- Irregular school days consist of Civil Days and School Spirit Days.
  - Civil Days are days where students may dress in their regular, non-uniformed clothing for one day. There will be a Civil Day in October, February, and May.
  - School Spirit Days are days designated to a theme such as the school colours, Book Character Day, Career Day, Pyjama Day etc.
  - Modesty and decency, as outlined in the student dress code above, still apply to irregular school days.
- Noncompliance to the dress code and uniform policy as explained above will result in the following:
  - First and second offense: the child will be given a warning and a note will be sent home. The child is expected to return it the following day, signed by the parents.
  - Third and fourth offense: appropriate measures will be taken at the school and the parents will be called.
  - Fifth and subsequent offense: the child will be required to sit in the office until one of his/her parents arrives with appropriate clothing. Any work missed will be caught up in the child's own time.
- When ordering uniformed tops, cheques payable to Bellstone Christian School must accompany the order form or the order will not be processed. e-transfers are also acceptable but must be noted on the order form. In addition, the order will not be processed if payment is not received before the bulk order date.