

Lancaster Mennonite School

Dress Code and Appearance Expectations

LMH desires that students come to school in clothing that celebrates human dignity and is appropriate for our school context, creating a positive, professional educational atmosphere. We understand that you may have attire that does not meet our appearance expectations. Save this wear for evenings and weekends (teachers and administrators have this kind of wear, too). Our dress code is designed to ensure that all students are respected. Just as certain jobs and professions maintain certain expectations for dress, so, too, does LMH.

- Shirts must have straps at least **2.5 inches wide** (approximately three fingers wide). Spaghetti straps, tube tops, muscle shirts, halter-tops, off-the-shoulder tops, and/or strapless tops are not permitted.
- Dresses, skirts, and shorts must be **mid-thigh or longer** when standing (this includes athletic shorts).
- All clothing must be free of holes, cuts, tears and/or rips that expose undergarments, patches or skin.
- Undergarments must be concealed at all times. Clothing that reveals undergarments, whether due to transparency, length, style, or cut is not permitted. Pants must be worn at the waist and may not reveal undergarments.
- Clothing that exposes cleavage is not permitted.
- Clothing that exposes the midriff is not permitted. Shirts should be able to be tucked in if necessary.
- Pictures, messages, and symbols on clothing, jewelry, or other accessories may not contain profanity or obscenity or include references to tobacco, vaping, alcohol, drugs, violence, or illegal activity. Pictures/messages/symbols with sexual, racist, oppressive, or generally negative connotations may not be worn.
- Hats, hoods, sunglasses may not be worn during the school day.
- Camouflage and distinctive military clothing may not be worn.
- Footwear must be worn at all times. Certain classes may require particular footwear to ensure student safety.
- This is not an exhaustive list and administration reserves the right to make interpretive decisions as needed.

Students who do not follow the dress code may be asked to change clothes or remove accessories. If the student does not have appropriate clothing in which to change, a parent/caregiver may be asked to provide it. The school may also provide clean alternatives when possible. Repeated dress code infractions may result in additional consequences as noted below.

First offense: Student required to change, warning issued, parent contact.

Second offense: Student required to change, detention or community service assigned, parent/caregiver, student, administrative meeting scheduled.

Third and subsequent offenses: Loss of class time and/or suspension. Parent contact. Student placed on probation.