



NHS Dress Code

While New Horizons School recognizes that the primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s), New Horizons School is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, and that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance, household income, or body type/size.

These dress code guidelines shall apply to regular school days, as well as any school-related events and activities, such as graduation ceremonies, dances and other school sponsored events.

Section 1. Basic Principle:

New Horizons School expects that all students will dress in a way that is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event. Student dress choices should respect the school's intent to sustain a community that is inclusive of a diverse range of identities.

In order to achieve this, certain body parts must be covered for all students at all times. Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, breasts, and nipples are fully covered with opaque fabric.

Section 2. Students Must Wear

While following the basic principle of Section 1 above, students must wear

- a shirt or top
- with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms,
- that extends to the waistband of the bottom clothing item,
- with sleeves or shoulder straps, AND
- pants or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress or shorts), AND
- activity or weather appropriate footwear (socks and slippers are not considered footwear) and outerwear.

Section 3. Students Cannot Wear

Students cannot wear clothing that has

- violent language or images;
- images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity);
- hate speech, profanity, or pornography;
- images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or consistently marginalized groups;
- any clothing that reveals visible undergarments (visible waistbands and visible straps are allowed);
- swimsuits (except as required in class or athletic practice);
- accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon; or
- any item that obscures the face or ears (except as a religious observance).

Section 4. Dress Code Enforcement

To ensure effective and equitable enforcement of this dress code, school staff shall enforce the dress code consistently using the requirements below. School administration and staff shall not have discretion to vary the requirements in ways that lead to discriminatory enforcement.

a) Students in violation of the above Sections will be provided three (3) options to be dressed more to code during the school day:

- Students will be asked to put on their own alternative clothing, if already available at school, to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
- If necessary, students' parents may be called during the school day to bring alternative clothing for the student to wear for the remainder of the day.
- Students will be provided with temporary school clothing to be dressed more to code for the remainder of the day.
- The New Horizons School *Code of Conduct* will be applied to students who refuse to comply to the above options on this list.

b) Staff Enforcement Expectations

No student should be affected by dress code enforcement because of racial identity, sex assigned at birth, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, cultural or religious identity, household income, body size/type, or body maturity.

School staff shall not enforce the school's dress code more strictly against transgender and gender nonconforming students than other students.

Students should not be shamed or required to display their body in front of others (students, parents, or staff) in school. "Shaming" includes, but is not limited to:

- kneeling or bending over to check attire fit;
- measuring straps or skirt length;
- asking students to account for their attire in the classroom or in hallways in front of others;
- calling out students in spaces, in hallways, or in classrooms about perceived dress code violations in front of others;
- accusing students of "distracting" other students with their clothing.