

## COLCA Dress Code Guidelines for 2022/2023

### Dress Code Philosophy

City of Life Christian Academy has a standardized dress code policy for the following reasons:

- To emphasize equality among the students, eliminating clothing competition
- To assist students in concentrating on academic achievement, eliminating any “fashion distraction”
- To establish a neat, consistent appearance on campus, creating a positive, disciplined environment

The dress code will be enforced from the time a student arrives on campus until the student is dismissed for the day. Judgment calls regarding the suitability of jewelry or hairstyles will be made by the faculty and staff. Their judgment will reflect common sense and overall modesty. The appearance of the students must comply with the spirit of City of Life Christian Academy, not distract from it.

While City of Life Christian Academy staff and administrators appreciate the God-given diversity among God’s people, this diversity is best not reflected in the school dress code. In fairness to all students, dress code compliance is a standard measurement, not a relative measurement. All students, Pre-K through high school, are expected to respect the dress code equally.

### The Role of Parents

Upon enrollment or re-enrollment, uniforms should be ordered as soon as possible to help students stay compliant with the school’s dress code. Grace will be granted for noncompliance to the uniform code if uniforms have been ordered.

Parents must do their own quick check for uniform compliance each morning to save themselves and the administration the effort of having to address an infraction.

### Dress Code for Pre-K3 - 12th Grades - Monday thru Thursday

Students are required to arrive at school in dress code compliance, or students will remain in the office until parents bring the correct uniform. Students must comply with administrator guidance on dress code. Our school uniform provider is Uniform Outfitters, see the link on our school website.

Young Ladies Daily Attire:

- Uniform dress shorts: black or khaki, knee length walking shorts or “bermuda” style shorts, no cargo pockets.
- Uniform Dress pants: black or khaki \*
- Skorts (knee length): black or khaki
- Polo shirt with COLCA monogram: white, gray, black
- Shoes: closed toe only, no open-toe sandals, clogs, crocs, slides, or slippers. No more than a 1-inch heel.
- Outerwear: crewneck sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts monogrammed with COLCA logo through vendor. Also permitted: COLCA team jackets, jean jackets without rips or tears, black, gray or white zip up jackets and sweatshirts with no logo (ex. are sold at [Walmart](#) or on [Amazon](#)).

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### Young Men Daily Attire:

- Uniform dress shorts: black or khaki, knee length walking shorts or “bermuda” style shorts, no cargo pockets.
- Dress pants: black or khaki \*
- Polo shirt with COLCA monogram: white, gray, black
- Shoes: closed toe only, no open-toe sandals, clogs, crocs, slides, or slippers.
- Outerwear: crewneck sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts to be monogrammed with COLCA logo through vendor. Also permitted: COLCA team jackets, jean jackets without rips or tears, black, gray or white zip up jackets and sweatshirts with no logo (ex. are sold at [Walmart](https://www.walmart.com) or on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com)).

\* Uniform dress pants are required to prevent students from wearing the following items that are now prohibited - leggings, jeggings, and black/khaki denim.

In order to fully understand this dress code, please also reference “Appearance Specifics” below.

### Dress Code for Physical Education - required for 6th - 9th grades

- Black gym shorts
- Solid gray T-shirt: COLCA logo or any “COLCA/ Warrior” wear T-Shirt
- Socks and athletic shoes are required
- Sweatpants and sweatshirts\* (optional for cool weather): black or gray

\*P.E. uniforms, along with all belongings brought or worn to school, must have student’s name clearly marked in permanent ink on the inside label

### Dress Code for Friday - Warrior T-Shirt and Jeans Day (ALL GRADES)

Warrior t-shirt and jeans days are considered a privilege for students who have consistently respected the dress code throughout the week. Students may wear daily uniform attire if they choose to do so. The following guidelines strictly apply:

- Jeans: in excellent condition, well fitted around the student’s waistline (solid black or solid blue), no rips, tears, frayed edges, embellishments, or fades.
- No low rise or extremely baggy jeans dropping off the waist and hips
- No holes, worn areas, or embellishments
- Jean shorts: same standards apply as jeans, knee length

### Warrior t-shirt includes:

- Warrior PE and T-shirts purchased through our uniform vendor.
- Any Field trip or class T-shirt
- Any t-shirt displaying the City of Life Church or COLCA name or logo
- Seniors may wear approved Senior Class T-shirt.

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### Appearance Specifics

Modesty allows the witness of Christ to shine through, rather than attracting attention to oneself through over-stated apparel, jewelry, and hairstyles.

- Clothing:
  - Undergarments worn under polos must be skin color, or the same shade as the polo color worn.
  - Pants are to be worn at the waistline, not in a dropped waist or low-rise style.
  - Shorts and skorts must be knee length.
  - Sleeveless shirts or tank tops are only allowed on campus during sports practices.
  - COLCA Athletic Warmups are only allowed to be worn on game days.
  - While on campus for school or Before & After-School Care, students must wear uniforms at all times. Students are not allowed to change into non-uniform clothing while waiting to be picked up after school or from After-School Care. If they wish, students may change into a standard P.E. uniform for After-School Care.
- Hair:
  - Hairstyles must be styled out of the eyes and kept neatly.
  - Natural hair color permitted only, no excessively bright hair colors.
  - Hair carving or shaving is allowed with appropriate imagery.
  - Facial Hair:
    - A fully grown in, well-maintained mustache, beard, or goatee is permitted unless otherwise restricted by Administration.
    - Facial hair must be neatly trimmed and may not present an unkempt appearance.
- Accessories:
  - No hats or bandanas are permitted.
  - All jewelry should never cause a distraction or be overstated. Like makeup and hairstyles, jewelry should promote the academy's vision of a uniform campus and should be minimal. Suitability of jewelry is a judgment call that will be made by school officials.
  - Hats and sunglasses cannot be worn indoors at any time.
  - Shoes must have closed toes.
- Piercings:
  - Earrings should not be distracting. Large hoop earrings, or long, dangling earrings cannot be larger than 1.5 inches.
  - No tongue piercings.
  - Elementary age boys may not have ears pierced.
  - Boys and young men in grades 6-12 may have one piercing per lobe.
- Students may not receive new tattoos while enrolled at COLCA.

### Lost or Stolen Items

Simply stated, jewelry and personal items of value are best left at home. The school assumes no responsibility for lost or stolen items. Everything that a student brings or wears to campus (uniform items, P.E. uniforms, windbreakers, books, etc.) should be labeled with permanent ink to avoid confusion among students. If items are missing, parents and students are encouraged to check lost and found.