

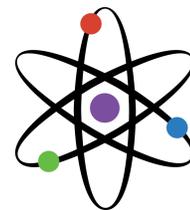
Portsmouth STEM Academy

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DRESS CODE

Mandatory Dress Code – All Students

Students should be dressed appropriately for school activities. Clothes must be clean and in good repair. Clothing, accessories, and hairstyles must not distract the student or other students from their work.

Portsmouth STEM Academy's dress code is a simple and flexible guideline to attire expectations that ensures your child is prepared for his/her learning environment. Our goal is not to restrict a student's choice of dress, but to provide a guideline for parents that still allows your child room for creative freedom with his/her outfit. By providing a color scheme of red spectrum and base colors, we hope to promote a sense of unity among children whether they're in the classroom, or in the community.

Model Dress Code

Shirts, Sweaters, Tops, and/or PSA official T-shirts

Must have sleeves (long or short)

Pants, Jumpers, Skirts, Shorts

Must provide full coverage of buttocks and top of thighs

Color Scheme

Reds (various shades acceptable from rose/pink, to reds, to purple/maroon)

Black, Khaki/Brown, Gray, White, Plaid (within the color families listed)

Jeans shall also follow PSA policy, as defined in the General Guideline section below.



Shoes

Should be comfortable and suitable for walking and activity.

General Guidelines for School Attire

1. Clothing must be free from tears, rips, holes, etc.
2. Clothing should not be oversized.
3. Pants must fit, cannot be oversized, and must be hemmed.
4. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Hair may not be sprayed by any coloring that would drip when wet.
5. Shoes must be worn at all times and must be enclosed. Steel toes or western-type boots are not to be worn. Sandals may be worn if they include a strap to secure the sandal and the toes are covered. No flip-flops. See example to right:



Problem Avoidance

A student's appearance may not interfere with the educational process, nor pose a health or safety hazard. If necessary, parents will be notified and the student may be sent home. The school reserves the right to prohibit clothing or accessories as deemed appropriate, such as:

1. Obscene statements and pictures
2. Statements advocating immoral, illegal, or age-inappropriate behavior (e.g. alcohol, tobacco, or sexual references)
3. Statements of disrespect or other messages that staff believe to be disruptive or inappropriate, political messages, or represent affiliations with groups who discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or are associated with violence, gangs, or illegal activity
4. Clothing and clothing styles that present a health or safety problem, or are representative of a gang or gang membership or association
5. Clothing which is revealing, such as tube tops, tops with spaghetti straps, short shorts, off the shoulder shirts, short or slit skirts, clothing that exposes the midriff, "skin tight" clothing and visible undergarments, clothes with holes (or mesh) that are revealing, etc, is prohibited.
6. Clothing that is excessively baggy and can interfere with a student safely moving will be prohibited.

Discipline Provisions

No student shall be considered non-compliant with this policy in the following instances:

- When a student wears a button, armband, or other accouterment to exercise his/her right to freedom of expression except as prohibited in the sections above.
- When a student wears the uniform of nationally recognized youth organization on regular meeting days, unless prohibited by Board policy.

Exemption of the School Dress Code Policy

Accommodations will be made when it is demonstrated that the dress code, or components of the dress code, would interfere with a student's sincerely held religious beliefs. Such accommodations will be determined on a case by case basis.