

# FOREST HILL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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Reiko Fuentes, B. Sc, B. Ed - Principal

September 4, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I would like to share some important information with you about new changes to the TDSB policy regarding student dress that went into effect September 1, 2019.

The Student Dress Policy (P042) recognizes that dress plays a fundamental role in students' lives and that students come from many diverse backgrounds, identities and experiences and ultimately their right to decide their dress resides with their family. The policy therefore provides choices for students dress and does not encourage any one choice but rather only directs students on what are inappropriate choices for dress at school.

What are students allowed to wear? All students:

- Will wear a top and bottom layer of clothing of opaque material;
- May wear tops that expose arms, shoulders, stomachs, midriff, neck lines, cleavage and straps but will cover the nipples;
- May wear bottoms that expose legs, thighs and hips and expose straps and waistbands, but will cover the groin and buttocks;
- May wear any headwear that does not obscure the face;
- May wear dress requirements to support a creed practices and similar human rights accommodations;
- May not wear tops that expose nipples;
- May not wear bottoms that expose the groin and buttocks;
- May not wear any headwear that obscures the face;
- May not wear undergarments as outerwear;
- May not wear anything that promotes or symbolizes drugs, alcohol, illegal activity, hate or discrimination, profanity, pornography; or that incites violence or harassment; or threatens health and safety.

Policing students' bodies is neither a positive, nor effective method to encourage respectful behaviours, ensure safety and discourage harassing behaviour. However, educating students about topics of diversity, healthy relationships, sexism and discrimination, boundaries and consent is a fundamental requirement of creating a safe and positive school climate and effective strategy to ensure healthy and shared respectful spaces for everyone.

To find out more information and review our frequently asked questions please visit: <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-School/Your-School-Day/Student-Dress/Questions-and-Answers>

Reiko Fuentes  
Principal  
Forest Hill Collegiate Institute



*Not for ourselves alone*