



Birch Cliff Heights Public School

DRESS CODE

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The purpose of this Dress Code is to create a learning and teaching environment that promotes:

- Safety
- Civility and Respect
- Self-Worth and Self-Discipline
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Cleanliness and Hygiene

It is expected that every **student, staff member, parent, volunteer and visitor** to the school will comply with our school's Dress Code. Exceptions will be permitted only at the discretion of the Principal in accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Ontario Human Rights Code.

APPROPRIATE DRESS

This includes any clothing that promotes a positive and professional environment. All clothing must cover undergarments and be conducive to effective learning.

Tops: - meet or overlap waistband (e.g., no exposed midriffs, wide tank top shoulders, no straps)

Bottoms: - must cover undergarments (e.g., mid thigh lengths for girls, pants worn at the waist for boys)

All students are expected to go outdoors for a portion of the day. Students must be dressed appropriately for the weather. Recommendations for:

- Hot weather - hats and sunscreen
- Cold weather - hats, scarves, warm mitts or gloves, winter coats and boots

Students are recommended to have a pair of indoor shoes to wear at school for the following reasons:

- a) during a fire alarm or evacuation
- b) to avoid injuries
- c) for sanitary reasons
- d) for participation in gym classes, daily physical activity (D.P.A.), and house league activities

Due to injuries and safety concerns it is strongly recommended that thin rubber-soled flip-flops are not worn to school.





Birch Cliff Heights Public School

DRESS CODE

INAPPROPRIATE DRESS

Clothing that interferes with the learning of others or is a distraction for other students or staff. Items or articles that the principal deems a health issue to the student or others, (e.g., excessive perfume/cologne). Any clothing that conflicts with the moral tone of the school.

This includes but is not limited to the following:

- * **No inappropriate message(s) on clothing or jewelry.**
This includes words, *slogans* and/or graphics which:
 - a) are sexually explicit or suggestive;
 - b) encourage drug or alcohol use;
 - c) promote hate, racism, violence;
 - d) are rude or offensive;

- * **No headgear (hats, sweatbands, doorags) except of a religious nature.**

- * **No undue amount of skin showing.**
This means that none of the following are acceptable:
 - a) see-through material, inappropriate skin revealing tops
 - b) very low cut or wide open necklines;
 - c) suggestively torn garments;
 - d) beachwear

- * **No gang fads.**
Gang signs include (but are not restricted to):
 - a) bandanas – anywhere on person;
 - b) pocket chains – any length or size;
 - c) “dog collars”;
 - d) gang names or insignia on clothes, books, desks, etc.
 - e) any other gang fad or sign that we learn about.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF DRESS CODE

Students who do not comply with this dress code may have the offending items removed or be sent home to change. Parents/Guardians will be notified of the concern and asked to support the school’s dress code.

Exceptions may arise and will be subject to the discretion of the Principal, depending on the circumstance.

PROVISION FOR PERIOD REVIEW

Our Dress Code was created with the assistance of the School Council and will continue to be enforced throughout the year. It will be formally reviewed every three years by a Committee that is representative of all constituencies of the school community.

