

Lower School Dress Code 2024-2025

General Philosophy

We believe that a student's individuality is more properly expressed by what he or she does and believes than by what is worn. In short, the heart of the child is far more important than how one chooses to adorn one's body. Neatness, good grooming and modest fashions are appropriate in a school that encourages students to focus attention on more meaningful matters than the latest fashions. The purpose of this dress code is to offer the students several options of comfortable, attractive and reasonably priced clothing that will reflect well on the students and the school. We do not want extremes, and we do not want students testing the limits of the policy. The key to the dress code is the fit and style of the clothing. Variations from the required style are not acceptable. Our suggestion is to err on the side of conservative dress, hairstyle and clothing accessories. When in doubt, please ask the dress code question before the item in question is worn to school.

Concept

This dress code policy contains information concerning the acceptable styles, colors and combinations of clothing for males and females. Students are free to choose from several options contained on the clothing chart unless it is a "dress up" day (e.g., chapel, graduation, award ceremonies) or "casual" day (e.g., Spirit Week, certain field trips).

Dress code charts may also be accessed on PCA's website.

Policy Enforcement

The faculty and principals are the sole arbiters of the dress code policy. When students in grades kindergarten through eighth are determined to be in violation of the dress code, an email notification will be made home to inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the infraction. When three email notifications have been made, any future infractions will require the parent to bring to school the proper dress code. The student will remain out of class until determined to be in compliance with the dress code or until a satisfactory plan for compliance is in place. Continued noncompliance may result in more significant action. Suggestions or questions concerning the policy should be brought to the attention of the Assistant Principals.

It is impossible for a dress code to address each possible piece of clothing or adornment. The following is provided in an attempt to clarify what is acceptable dress code attire.

Portsmouth Christian Academy Dress Code

Where do I buy dress code clothing?

- Land's End (www.landsend.com/pp/SchoolSearch.html?action=landing&selectedSchoolNum=900027376) and JCPenney's (www.jcp.com) are the **only** approved school uniform vendors for PCA. Items may **not** be purchased elsewhere with the exception of some PE clothing. Those who purchase unmonogrammed tops from Land's End or JC Penny can monogram their apparel at Deb and Duke Monogrammers in Berwick, Maine.

When going to the Land's End site, enter PCA's Preferred School Number, 900027376. Then enter your child's age and gender, no other identifying personal information is necessary.

"Boy's" or "Men's" sizes are acceptable.

"Girl's" or "Women's" sizes are acceptable.

When going to the JCP site, select "kids" or "juniors" sizing, "School Uniform" tab (JCP is typically best for tops and alternative sizing, but they do not have the ability to monogram with the PCA logos). Those who purchase unmonogrammed tops from Land's End or JCPenney can monogram their apparel at Deb and Duke Monogrammers in Berwick, Maine.

K-5 Boys' Dress Code

It is impossible for a dress code to address each possible piece of clothing or adornment. The following is provided in an attempt to provide information regarding some of the more common areas of concern.

Category	Details	Colors	Notes
Everyday Tops	Standard fit polo (Short or long sleeve: Interlock, mesh, or rapid dry)	White or Burgundy	<i>Land's End login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</i> Must have a PCA-approved logo. Shirts must be tucked into bottoms. Short-sleeved shirts may <u>not</u> be worn over long-sleeved shirts.
Everyday Bottoms	Chino pants Shorts (<2" above knee)	Khaki or Navy	<i>Land's End login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</i> In grades 3-5, belt must be worn if the item has belt loops.
Chapel Tops	Standard collar Button-down Short or long-sleeve	White or Light Blue	<i>Land's End login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</i> Ties are required to be worn on chapel days. Ties may be removed for recess only. Chapel shirts are to be worn on Chapel day only.
Chapel Bottoms	Chino pants Shorts (<2" above knee)	Khaki or Navy	<i>Land's End login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</i> In grades 3-5, belt must be worn if the item has belt loops.
PE Tops	Crew neck t-shirt, Active or Essential Short or long sleeve Crew-collared or hoodie sweatshirt*	White, Grey, Burgundy	<i>Land's End login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</i> Must have a PCA-approved logo. Solid color PCA team t-shirts and PCA Spirit Wear in these colors are also acceptable. *PCA Spirit Wear hoodies may be worn only on PE day .
PE Bottoms	Athletic shorts (<2" above knee) Sweat pants Track Pants (from Land's End only)	Black, Grey, Burgundy	Solid color and loose-fitting No stripes
Shoes	Closed-toe shoes Athletic		One pair of non-marking athletic shoes must be left at school for P.E.
Additional Layers (for in-school wear)	V-neck sweater Cardigan sweater (zip or button)	White, Burgundy, or Navy	<i>Land's End login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</i> May have a PCA-approved logo.

Category	Details	Colors	Notes
	Vest ½-Zip fleece jacket Fleece jacket Crew neck sweatshirt with logo		Must be worn over an approved, collared shirt.
Accessories	Belts Ties Hair Tattoos Piercing Jewelry Outwear Hats	Solid neutral color Solid Burgundy	Belts will be in good repair with the belt tip neatly tucked into the belt retainer. Belts are optional for K-2 students. Ties may be worn at any time that a dress shirt is being worn in accordance with the dress code. Ties should be worn snug against the shirt collar and will be belt length. Male students will wear their hair neatly combed, in traditional men's style and of natural color. Male students' hair length will not exceed the collar. Tattoos are not permitted. All students are discouraged from piercing any part of their body. Unless otherwise instructed, outer garments are to be removed upon entering the school and placed on an assigned coat hook or in a locker. All hats, scarves, and other head coverings will be removed upon entering the school building and will remain off until departure.

K-5 Girls' Dress Code

It is impossible for a dress code to address each possible piece of clothing or adornment. The following is provided in an attempt to provide information regarding some of the more common areas of concern.

Category	Details	Colors	Notes
Everyday Tops	Standard fit polo Feminine-fit polo (Short or long sleeve: Interlock, mesh, or rapid dry)	White or Burgundy	<i>Land's End</i> login must be used to access PCA approved styles. Must have a PCA-approved logo. Shirts must be tucked into bottoms. Short-sleeved shirts may <u>not</u> be worn over long-sleeved shirts.
Everyday Bottoms	Chino pants Shorts (<2" above knee) Pencil cut pants (<i>Land's End</i> only) Skirts/skorts (to the knee) Jumpers/Dresses (to the knee)	Khaki or Navy	<i>Land's End</i> login must be used to access PCA approved styles. Belt must be worn if item has belt loops in grades 3-5. Several hem lengths are available to accommodate body styles, but please remember skirts/skorts must be to the knee in actual length. Jumpers must be worn over an approved dress code top.
Chapel Tops	Knit "Peter Pan" collar polo Oxford Shirt Short or long-sleeve	White or Light Blue	<i>Land's End</i> login must be used to access PCA approved styles. Ruffled collar is also acceptable. Chapel shirts are to be worn on Chapel day only.
Chapel Bottoms	Skirt (to the knee length) Jumpers/Dresses (to the knee length)	Khaki or Navy	<i>Land's End</i> login must be used to access PCA approved styles. Several hem lengths are available to accommodate body styles, but please remember skirts must be to the knee in actual length.
PE Tops	Crew neck t-shirt, Active or Essential Short or long sleeve Crew-collared or hoodie sweatshirt*	White, Grey, Burgundy	<i>Land's End</i> login must be used to access PCA approved styles. Must have PCA-approved logo. Solid color PCA team t-shirts and PCA Spirit Wear in these colors are also acceptable. *PCA Spirit Wear hoodies may be worn only on PE day .
PE Bottoms	Athletic shorts (<2" above knee) Sweat pants Track Pants (from <i>Land's End</i> only)	Black, Grey, Burgundy	Females will need to use Boy's or Men's sizing for shorts to meet the length requirement and may purchase solid black, grey, or burgundy girls athletic shorts from another source if they meet the <2" above the knee rule. Solid color and loose-fitting, no stripes

Category	Details	Colors	Notes
Shoes	<p><2" heel</p> <p>Sandals with ankle strap</p> <p>Athletic</p> <p>Boots</p>		<p>No flip-flops</p> <p>Clean, non-marking soled sneakers are to be left at school.</p> <p>Snow boots are not to be worn in the classroom.</p>
Additional Layers (for in-school wear)	<p>V-neck sweater</p> <p>Cardigan sweater (zip or button)</p> <p>Vest</p> <p>½-Zip fleece jacket</p> <p>Fleece jacket</p> <p>Crew neck sweatshirt with logo</p>	White, Burgundy, or Navy	<p><i>Land's End</i> login must be used to access PCA approved styles.</p> <p>May have a PCA-approved logo.</p> <p>Must be worn over approved collared shirt.</p>
Accessories etc.	<p>Tights, Leggings, or socks (worn with skirts or jumpers)</p> <p>Belts</p> <p>Hair</p> <p>Tattoos</p> <p>Piercing</p> <p>Jewelry</p> <p>Outerwear</p> <p>Hats</p>	<p>Solid neutral color (black, white, beige, tan, light pink, navy blue)</p> <p>Solid neutral color</p>	<p>No athletic leggings under skirts or jumpers.</p> <p>If socks are worn with skirts, jumpers, or shorts they must be solid neutral colors as well.</p> <p>Belts are optional for K-2 students.</p> <p>Hair will be neatly worn and of natural color.</p> <p>Tattoos are not permitted.</p> <p>All students are discouraged from piercing any part of their body. However, pierced ears are permitted, for females wearing up to two earrings in each ear lobe.</p> <p>Female students may wear earrings, necklaces, bracelets and watches as long as they are worn in a tasteful manner as determined by the teacher and/or Asst. Principal.</p> <p>Unless otherwise instructed, outer garments are to be removed upon entering the school and placed on an assigned coat hook or in a locker.</p> <p>All hats, scarves, and head coverings will be removed upon entering the school building and will remain off until departure.</p>