

Bristol Tennessee City Schools has dress standards in place to promote the culture of the school system as one of self-respect as well as the respect for others. Students shall dress and groom in a clean, neat, and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school and to prepare for their future college and career expectations. Shirts and shoes are required at all school events.

School administrators have the obligation to determine when a student is attired in a manner which is likely to cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school and will take appropriate administrative action, which may include suspension. **The administrator has full discretion to determine what is inappropriate.** Teachers are to enforce the dress standards per the parameters below.

Clothes must not violate the following guidelines, even if the clothes are part of the prevailing fashion.

**Shirts/ Blouses:**

- Shirts/ Blouses must have a neckline that exposes **no cleavage**. If the shirt/ blouse has buttons or a zipper, it must meet the above requirement.
- Muscle shirts, tank tops, midriff shirts, halter tops, tube tops, spaghetti strap tops, and backless or off the shoulder tops are not permitted.
- See-through clothing, mesh clothing, or cutouts are not allowed.
- Shirts/ blouses worn outside the waistband must be of sufficient length so that no flesh is exposed.
- Any willful display of inappropriate parts of the body or undergarments.

**Sweaters/ Sweatshirts:**

- Sweaters, sweatshirts, and hoodies are permitted if they meet the shirt/ blouse dress code or are worn over a shirt or blouse that does meet the dress code. The hood may not be worn on the head.

**Pants/Shorts:**

- Must be worn at the waist and be size appropriate. No sagging is allowed.
- Must have **“NO HOLES** where skin above the knee and/or underwear is exposed.”
- Shorts must not be any shorter than 2 1/2 inches (width of a dollar bill) above the top of the kneecap.

**Skirts/ Dresses/ Jumpers:**

- Skirts, dresses, and jumpers must not be shorter than 2 ½ inches (width of a dollar bill) above the top of the kneecap. A slit in the dress or skirt cannot exceed the length of a dollar bill (6 inches) above the top of the kneecap.
- The top of the dress must meet the shirt/ blouse requirements of the dress code or have a shirt that does meet the requirements beneath or over the dress. Backless dresses, low cut dresses, or dresses with spaghetti straps will not be permitted.

**Coats/ Jackets:**

- All outerwear (coats and jackets meant for outside) must be removed and put in the student’s locker upon arrival at school. Students are not permitted to wear or to carry these clothing articles with them during the school day. **Students are encouraged to bring sweatshirts or sweaters in case of cold weather.**

**Headwear/ Hats:**

- **No head coverings are permitted.** This includes, but is not limited to, hats, hoodies, scarves, sweatbands, stockings, do-rags, bandanas, toboggans, etc. These items must be removed upon entering the building and placed in lockers. **Students must not have in their possession a hat or headwear during the school day.**

**Other General Rules:**

- All clothing should be clean and in good repair.
- See-through clothing, mesh clothing, or cutouts are prohibited.
- Industrial chains, wallet chains, accessories with spikes, pet chains, collars around the neck or wrists are prohibited.
- Clothing that displays the names of/ or advertisements of drug, alcohol, tobacco products, profane, vulgar, violent, illegal, immoral, hate messages, or sexual innuendoes are prohibited.
- Accessories must be free of offensive or suggestive words or graphics, contain no references to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, illegal/immoral substances, or activities. Mushroom accessories are not allowed.
- Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
- Students are not allowed to wear, carry, and/ or display bandanas, pagers, or items associated with gangs. Student attire cannot be modified (for example – rolling up pant leg) to display gang affiliation.
- No sunglasses may be worn or be visible at any time during the day.
- Athletic/ spirit group uniforms worn to school must meet all dress code requirements.
- Blankets, pajamas, flannel pants, house shoes, or any sleepwear or accessories are prohibited.
- Gloves are not allowed to be worn during class except where instructed by teacher (i.e. shop class).