

## CARLTON SCHOOL STUDENT DRESS CODE

The Carlton School philosophy is that, with respect for self-expression, students should wear clothing that is safe and comfortable for school and learning, and that allows for active participation in all school activities. Parents and guardians are responsible for managing their students' clothing choices in accordance with the stated dress code policy.

Our values with respect to the dress code are:

- To support student safety and protection.
- To promote student comfort and well-being in the learning environment.
- To promote student participation in all activities.
- To treat each student with fairness and compassion.

Enforcement of the Carlton School dress code will not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, household income, gender identity or cultural observance. The Carlton School is committed to guiding staff in the fair and sensitive enforcement of the dress code with respect to these stated considerations.

1. **Basic Principle:** All students must have certain body parts covered at all times. Clothes must be worn in a way such that genitals, buttocks, breasts, stomachs, and nipples are fully covered with opaque fabric. All of the policies to follow reflect this basic principle.

2. **Students Must Wear:**

- A Shirt (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms), AND
- Pants/jeans or the equivalent (for example, a skirt, sweatpants, leggings, a dress or shorts), AND
- Shoes (shoes should, whenever possible, be appropriate for the weather and for play; sneakers are the preferred footwear for all school activities, but any shoe should be comfortable and, whenever possible, have nonskid rubber soles).

3. **Students May Wear**

- Religious head coverings
- Fitted pants, including opaque leggings, yoga pants and “skinny jeans”
- Ripped jeans, as long as underwear and buttocks are not exposed.
- Tank tops, including spaghetti straps and halter tops (with straps around the neck)
- Athletic attire
- Visible waistbands on undergarments or visible straps on undergarments worn under other clothing

4. **Students Cannot Wear:**

- Sneakers or shoes with wheels on them
- Flip flops or other footwear without backing
- Head coverings that are not religious in nature

- Violent language or images
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity)
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography, or gang-related imagery
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class or marginalized group
- Any clothing that reveals visible undergarments (visible waistbands and visible straps are allowed)
- Swimsuits
- Dangling or large hoop earrings (earrings that sit close to the ear are acceptable as they do not present a safety hazard)
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon
- Any item that obscures the face or ears (except as a religious observance)
- Costumes, masks, or pajamas, unless associated with a special school activity

### **Considerations for Parents and Guardians**

- Children may want to avoid wearing special clothing that cannot be ripped, stained, or lost, as the school day is active and often messy.
- Parents and guardians are strongly encouraged to apply sunscreen to children before school to protect their skin during recess, gym, gardening, and other outside activities.
- Children are encouraged to wear sneakers so that they are not limited in their ability to participate in school activities, including fire drills and gym.
- Children may want to save makeup for special occasions outside of school (makeup may not be brought to school).

The Carlton School is committed to supporting any family or child who cannot meet the above dress requirements. Families or children who need support in following the dress code should contact the principal or nurse for assistance.