

## DRESS CODE

### PRINCIPLES

One of the main tasks of the school is to provide an education for its students that will enable them to contribute to a better society in the future. To this end, the school, with the help of families, has a duty to mould its students into tolerant, respectful, responsible and thoughtful citizens who contribute positively to upholding our values, abiding by them as they make their way in the world. The need for a dress code is based on the twin principles of suitability and respect for others. Students have to learn that, depending on the time and place, there is a whole range of formal conventions in life that have to be respected, amongst which is that of suitability of dress. Consider how differently we dress when we go, for instance, to the beach, a relative's wedding or to school.

### TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION

We do recognise that how we dress forms part of our personality and sense of individuality. Students are aware of fashion trends and choosing what to wear is another way of using their freedom to express themselves.

Nevertheless, it is important to understand that certain forms of dress are not appropriate in a school setting because they can distract from the process of teaching/ learning and forming good relationships in the school. For example, excessively provocative clothing can be a source of tension for some whilst an aggressive style of dress can prove intimidating for others.

### THE OBJECTS OF THIS CODE

1. - To provide a safe learning environment for all students by avoiding distractions and intimidation.
2. - To teach students the importance of personal appearance in our society.
3. - To respect the fact that fashion is one way that students have of expressing their personality.
4. - To define the boundaries within which students are free to choose their way of dressing.
5. - To promote tolerance, respect and responsibility amongst students regarding types of clothing.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

#### I go to school to learn

I won't wear outrageous clothes (i.e. exaggerated piercings, dangerous objects), hairstyles or make-up that might distract others or interfere with the educational process and the school community.

#### I have self respect

I will look after my personal hygiene and my appearance. For safety reasons, I won't wear studs and earrings in Sports classes.

#### I show respect for others

It's a sign of politeness not to wear sunglasses or to cover my head (e.g. with caps or hoods) inside the buildings.

#### I am against unhealthy habits

I won't wear clothes with messages that mention unhealthy habits or substances.

#### I am against unacceptable conduct

I won't wear clothes that exhibit obscene language, messages or symbols which refer to violence, racism, xenophobia, sexist attitudes or extreme ideologies.

### **I respect the school rules**

I will wear the school sports uniform in Sports classes.

### **Visto con decoro**

I won't reveal my underwear.

I won't wear provocative vestment.

The example lists above are not exhaustive; please try to use common sense when you dress yourself for coming to school.

## **THE ROLES OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS**

Parents and teachers should make sure that the students understand this dress code properly, and should encourage them to adhere to it. It is very important that parents are conscious of how their children dress at school and that they advise them how to dress appropriately.

## **THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT RESPECTING THIS CODE**

In the first instance, if students don't respect this code, there will be an attempt to discuss the issue with them in order to persuade them to change their conduct. If a student persists in breaking the code, then the family will be notified of the problem in order to establish a constructive dialogue. If this proves impossible, then the school will be obliged to apply the disciplinary sanctions listed in the General Rules of the European Schools.

The Head  
European School of Alicante

Escuela Europea de Alicante