Dress Code for Bishop Heelan High School

Dress Code
Dress codes have been an important feature in the history of Catholic education, since it began more than 120 years ago. The purpose of the Heelan dress code is to create and promote an environment of academic professionalism. Items which may be appropriate for different settings (i.e. social settings outside of the school day) may not be considered in dress code.

Any student whose dress appears to circumvent the spirit and intent of the dress code is not in compliance. Bizarre and unkempt appearance is not allowed. The Dean will determine issues of interpretation. Included in this section would be any type of jewelry worn; sleeve, pant, or skirt length; clothes or any other means or devices that might be distracting. All clothing must be clean and in good repair. Students are not allowed to wear ripped, tattered, torn, cut, dirty clothes or clothes that do not cover the torso. In all cases, Bishop Heelan High School administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes proper dress code in the spirit of its intent and in accordance with good taste and modest contemporary standards for a Catholic high school.

Shirts/Turtlenecks/T-Shirts
Short sleeved or long-sleeved shirts with collars, oxford or polo, which are solid color white or dark navy blue shall be worn. Shirts shall be plain except for the Bishop Heelan High School crest. (A logo less than the size of a 50-cent piece is also acceptable i.e. the American Eagle logo) Shirts must always be tucked in (standing, sitting, or walking). Turtlenecks, white or dark navy, may be worn under a long-sleeved shirt or sweater. All undergarments (including undershirts with printed text or designs or brightly colored sports bras) must not be visible from under the shirt and must not extend beyond the sleeves of the shirt unless it is the same color as the outside shirt.

Slacks/Pants
Dress slacks/pants of solid color khaki or dark navy blue shall be worn. If slacks/pants have belt loops, a solid black or brown leather or canvas belt (including buckled braided leather belts) unadorned in any way, shall be worn. Distracting belt buckles are prohibited (belt buckles are considered distracting when they are excessive in size or feature text or designs not in the spirit of the Bishop Heelan mission statement, adherence to these guidelines is left to the discretion of the administration). Slacks/pants must be clean and neat, un-frayed, uncut, unadorned. Slacks/pants shall be worn at the waist. The pant leg shall reach the top of the shoe or sandal but not drag on the ground. Snaps, zippers, or rivets on pockets are prohibited. Cargo pants or patch pockets pants are prohibited.

Skirts/Shorts/Capris
Plaid skirts, solid navy or khaki walking shorts and solid navy or khaki capris may be worn all year long. The uniform shorts must be less than three inches above the knee. The uniform skirt must be Dennis Uniform Company brand. Skirts must be worn at the waist and not be rolled or have the length altered in any manner. The length of the skirt must be less than 3 inches above the knee with the front and back hem of the skirt being the same length from the floor. Students found in violation of this expectation (3 times per year) will lose the privilege of wearing skirts and/or shorts for the remainder of the year. Something to consider; high school students grow; shorts and skirts do not! Items that may have been in dress code last year may not fit the same on your growing student!

Sweaters/Sweater Vests
Solid plain sweaters, which are white, gray or dark navy blue, (buttoned cardigans, crew, V-neck, or vest) may be worn. Only the Bishop Heelan crest (or appropriate Bishop Heelan emblem or name – cannot contain graphics – no print on the back) may appear on the sweater. Uniform shirts/turtlenecks must be worn under the sweater. Sweaters must be properly worn, not draped or tied and may not have a hood or pouch pockets.
Heelan Sweatshirt/Fleeced Pullover/Jackets
Solid plain Bishop Heelan Sweatshirts/Fleeced pullover/1/4 Zip Jackets which are white, gray, or dark navy blue will be allowed. Uniform shirts/turtlenecks must be worn under the sweatshirt/fleece/jackets. This does not include the outerwear often associated with different activities and sports – these are considered out of uniform. Hoodies, full-zip jackets, and pouch pockets are not in uniform.

Neckties/Blazers
Neckties and Navy-Blue blazers are always acceptable uniform attire

Socks
Socks of predominantly white, navy blue, black or gray and predominantly solid must be worn with all footwear. Socks may not feature distracting patterns or bright colors. Socks must be visible above the top of the shoe. Tights can be worn under a skirt, but they must be plain navy blue or gray with no pattern (including patterns attributed to their construction design).

Shoes/Sandals
Dress shoes, dress boots, or mules in black and/or brown tones, clean, neat, and unadorned shall be properly worn (No visible fur or faux fur). Boots must be worn under the pant leg and will not be worn with skirts or shorts. Black and/or brown tone sandals, solid leather covering the toes, with a strap, may be worn. The strap must be buckled and worn behind the heel. Slippers, moccasins, and brown, black, or leather tennis shoes are not considered to be in dress code. Gray, white and shoes with patterns, animal prints or bright colors are not in dress code. Canvas shoes are not in dress code.

Grooming
No unusual or distracting hairstyles and/or hair colors (including streaks of unnatural color). Male students’ hair must be above the eyebrows, not touch the collar of the shirt while standing and may touch but not cover the ear. Male students using hair products/styles to circumvent these guidelines will still be expected to become compliant when asked by teachers and/or administration. Male students must be clean-shaven and may not have sideburns below the ear lobe, nor may sideburns be excessive. Facial paint, glitters, sparkles are forbidden. In regard to extra-curricular activities: hairstyles and other grooming issues must be in compliance with Heelan regulations whenever our students are representing Bishop Heelan. This includes but is not limited to athletic competitions, concerts, plays, or any other event whereby our students will be representing the school.

Body Piercing and Tattoos
Two earrings per ear are permitted. Other body piercing is to be kept out of sight. Clear or flesh-colored plugs may be used to conceal additional piercing. Tattoos must not be visible. Tattoos in extra-curricular activities are strongly discouraged. The moderator/coach of any given activity reserves the right to make students cover up tattoos. Any tattoo deemed inappropriate will always be asked to be covered. Spikes cannot be worn as a piercing.

Miscellaneous/Accessories
Non-school related buttons or pins are prohibited. Additional jewelry/hair accessories must be modest and professional in appearance (with Bishop Heelan administration having final discretion).

Activity Day Attire
Each school activity will be allowed to designate 2 dress-up days per regular season. On these days they will wear the approved team traveling apparel or jerseys. Approved team attire that is uniform compliant can be worn at any time. This must be approved by the Dean of Students prior to the designated day. All participants are expected to be uniform in their appearance.
**Jeans Day Attire**
1. Clean blue jeans without holes or tears—worn with a belt if pants have belt loops. No denim shorts, sweats or warm-ups allowed.
2. Heelan shirts with or without collars, and sweatshirts that are purchased at school or approved by the school.
3. Clean shoes or closed-toed sandals worn with socks.
4. Uniform dress is always acceptable.
5. If special circumstances warrant the wearing of shorts (i.e. exceptionally warm weather), they may not be “form fitting” and must adhere to normal dress code shorts standards.
6. Any student found trying to circumvent contributing through only partial participation (i.e. only wearing tennis shoes) will be asked to change, contribute, and may be issued a detention.

**Sweats Day Attire**
1. Clean sweatpants/warm-ups without holes or tears. No “form fitting” items (i.e. leggings and/or yoga pants) allowed.
2. Heelan shirts, with or without collars, and sweatshirts that are purchased at school or approved by the school.
3. Clean shoes or closed-toed sandals worn with socks.
4. Uniform dress is always acceptable.
5. If special circumstances warrant the wearing of shorts (i.e. exceptionally warm weather), they may not be “form fitting” and must adhere to normal dress code shorts standards.
6. Any student found trying to circumvent contributing through only partial participation (i.e. only wearing tennis shoes) will be asked to change, contribute, and may be issued a detention.

**Dress Code Student Responsibility**
The acceptability of a student’s appearance is reserved to the judgment of the faculty/staff and the administration. Students found to be in violation of the dress code will be issued a demerit or detention.