## Our Dress Code Philosophy

Live Oak Charter School is dedicated to offering a wholesome and comprehensive education. The scope of this education does not stop with the “Three R’s,” but extends into consideration of the physical and cultural environment of the school. The desire for individuality in clothing is strong in modern culture and seeps down to the youngest ages due to the effectiveness of advertising. Yet within the Waldorf approach, the unfolding of the child’s individuality is best marked in the student’s work and relations with their classmates. It is our humanness that needs development, not our responsiveness to advertising, slogans, sports allegiances, etc. While clothing choices can be an avenue for self-expression and identity, fads can undermine a productive learning atmosphere and impact social relationships, provoking precocious behavior, self-absorption, and competitiveness. Accordingly, we hold the philosophy that students’ clothing and accessories should not be disruptive, disturbing, or inappropriate for healthy child development.

### Preferred

* Clothing and accessories should minimize the presence of text and imagery whenever possible.
  + Encouraged:
    - Garments in solid colors, patterned fabric, geometric or abstract designs, plaids, floral prints, stripes, and with simple decorative icons.
    - Garments that include text and image from LOCS school activities.
  + Discouraged:
    - Garments with words and numbers, cartoons, scenic, realistic or media images.
    - Garments that advertise commercial interests, including media characters.
* In an effort to protect those with sensitivities, we strive to be a scent-free environment.

### Mandatory

* Students must wear clothes that:
  + Have fabric in the front, back, and on the sides.
  + Cover undergarments; bra straps excluded.
  + Cover all private parts (not see-through).
  + Allow for full participation in school activities, including movement exercises and free play (accessories and jewelry included).
  + Do not depict, advertise or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances.
  + Do not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
  + Do not use or depict hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other protected groups.
  + Do not include gang identifiers or threaten the health or safety of any other student or staff.
* Students must wear footwear at all times, except when specified by staff. Shoes must protect the toes, be secure on feet, and be supportive during physical activity.
* Students must remove hats and hoods while in class, except when specified by staff.
* Students may be required to wear specific clothing for special events.

Dress Code infractions may result in contact with the student’s parents to bring alternative clothes to school. Alternative clothing may be provided by the school. Repeated infractions may result in disciplinary action, including suspension. Please use these guidelines for all school activities.