



Berkeley Rose School

Dress Policy

Berkeley rose School is a place where your child is learning to discover and express her/his uniqueness and develop meaningful friendships with others. Everything we do, from planning activities to creating the environment, is done with an eye toward this goal. An important part of the environment is the people themselves! What we and the children wear contributes to the sense of peace and tranquility necessary for creative play, expression, and learning. The teachers are very conscious to wear plain-colored clothing without advertising, imagery, or writing. They dress modestly and according to the weather. As you may have already learned at an open house where parent handbooks were made available for families to read, Berkeley Rose has a dress policy to help ensure the children's freedom of thought and movement.

A Special Mention About Imagery

Over the many years our teachers have spent in the classroom, they have experienced how pictures and writing on clothing distract the children, and interfere with and affect or direct their imaginative play. We therefore ask that parents refrain from sending their children to school wearing clothing with imagery and messages/wording/branding. If you are having a hard time finding places to source clothing, current families are happy to share what's worked for them.

General Guidelines

- Clothing should be clean, well-fitting, and in good repair. Fabric is comfortable and in solid colors (except black and neon). Stripes, polka dots, and plaids may also be worn.
- Clothing, shoes, and accessories should be free of pictorial patterns, media images, pictures, logos, and wording.
- We all know how changeable the weather is here in the Bay Area. Therefore, we ask that all children be provided with enough layers to adjust to the changing temperatures.
- Arms and legs must be covered unless the outside temperature is above 70°F. Midriffs are covered at all times. (Tip: Box up summer clothes at the approach of the cold months, so that children will not be tempted to "hold on to summer" by wearing them.)
- Hair should not hide the child's eyes or be distracting to the child or classmates.
- Shoes (with closed toes and closed heels) should fit well, be in good repair, and be sturdy enough to allow for safe movement. Please leave at home: Crocs, open sandals, and shoes with lights, glitter, bells, and eye-catching decorations.
- Please leave at home costume items (unless requested by the teacher), jewelry, and highly decorative or uncomfortable headbands and barrettes.
- Please, no temporary tattoos, nail polish, writing, or drawing on the body.
- Kindly label **all** of your child's garments that come to school (socks and underwear included) with legible names or initials. This makes the teacher's' job simpler and also greatly increases your chances of getting your clothing returned to you!
- Children are asked to wear a warm hat in cool/cold weather, and a sun hat on bright days. Please find appropriate hats that your child likes and will be happy to wear. Please label these as well. Have both hats at school all the time, as the weather changes from moment to moment.
- The children walk and hike in all sorts of weather so rain gear is essential to have at school - see details below.

Children, regardless of gender, may wear:

- Collared shirts, T-shirts, long-sleeved jerseys, blouses, vests
- Pants, trousers, jumpers, shorts (no jeans)
- Skirts, dresses (no longer than mid-calf; avoid those with tutu fabric)
- Tights, leggings (remember, legs are covered when the temperature is under 70°F)

Clothing and Accessories at School

The following is a list of articles of clothing we would like each child to maintain in his/her cubby. Wet or dirty clothing will be sent home at the end of the day. Please remember to replace anything brought home. The following items should be clearly labeled with your child's name:

- Plain, comfy-inside, no-slip, non-marking slippers with closed toes and closed heels
- Two pairs of socks
- Two pairs of underwear
- A shirt
- Pants
- Wool (or similar-quality, like Polartec) sweater
- Hats (winter and sun)
- Mittens
- Rain Gear: rubber boots, rain pants, & rain coat with a hood or a rain hat. Many children have full rain suits with a hood which can be put on quickly. Patterns and images are okay on rain gear, but please avoid gear with logos/symbols.
- Lunch backpack

Thank you so much for tending to this very important detail. The partnership between you and your child's teacher is essential to the success of your child's education. If you'd like to discuss anything you read here please call 510.859.7679. We are happy to help you!