

Dress and Demeanour Protocol for Principal

(As per CBSE School Leadership Expectations)

Objective:

To maintain a consistent standard of professional appearance and dignified conduct by the Principal, reinforcing the leadership role and upholding the decorum of the CBSE-affiliated institution.

1. Dress Code

1.1 Professional Attire

- The Principal shall wear formal and culturally appropriate attire that reflects respect for the role and the institution.
- For women: sarees, salwar suits, or formal kurta with dupattas are recommended.
- For men: formal shirts, trousers, suits, or Indian formal wear like Nehru jackets or kurta-pajamas (where appropriate).

1.2 Attire for Ceremonial Occasions

- During events such as Independence Day, Republic Day, Annual Day, and other school functions, traditional Indian attire may be worn.
- Dress should complement the solemnity or festivity of the occasion, without being ostentatious.

1.3 Footwear

- Formal, polished footwear should be worn. Avoid sports shoes, slippers, or overly casual sandals during official hours.

2. Grooming and Presentation

2.1 Personal Grooming

- The Principal must maintain personal hygiene and grooming—neat hairstyle, clean nails, and tidy appearance.
- Use of minimal and non-distracting accessories is encouraged to maintain a professional look.

2.2 Overall Appearance

- Attire should be wrinkle-free, clean, and suited to the day's activities (e.g., outdoor functions vs. indoor meetings).
- Avoid bright, flashy colours or heavy ornaments during school hours.

3. Demeanour and Conduct

3.1 General Behaviour

- The Principal should maintain composure, respect, and discipline in all settings.
- Conduct must reflect integrity, emotional intelligence, and fairness, in line with CBSE's values.

3.2 During Assemblies and Events

- Project a dignified presence during national events, assemblies, inspections, and celebrations.
- Stand respectfully during national anthems, prayers, and flag ceremonies, setting the behavioral standard for all.

4. Communication and Body Language

4.1 Verbal Communication

- Speak clearly, calmly, and respectfully with all stakeholders—students, teachers, parents, and visitors.
- Language should always be formal and encouraging, avoiding harsh or sarcastic tones.

4.2 Non-verbal Communication

- Maintain good posture, make eye contact, and offer courteous gestures.
- Active listening and appropriate expressions reflect leadership and empathy.

5. Leadership by Example

5.1 Role Modelling for Staff and Students

- As the face of the school, the Principal must model ideal conduct in attire, punctuality, etiquette, and speech.
- Consistency in dress and behavior reinforces institutional discipline and integrity.

5.2 Public Representation

- While representing the school at external forums, workshops, or CBSE events, maintain a high standard of decorum and professional appearance.
- Ensure that any public interactions reflect the values of CBSE and the educational institution.

Conclusion - The Principal's dress and demeanour should reflect respect for tradition, professionalism in action, and leadership in spirit. These guidelines ensure that the school head remains a living example of the values CBSE strives to instill in every learner and educator.