



Clothing for Summer

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This article has been the frame work for this list of recommendations for Independence Training in Clothing at Paint Branch Montessori School

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/dress-kids-for-comfort-at-daycare-616880>

Before you buy clothes for your child, there's more you should know besides whether there is a school dress code. Here are some heartfelt suggestions from care providers and educators to ensure happy and comfortable kids.

Be Practical

1. Kids may look absolutely precious in ruffles and lace, but let's be honest, your child's caregiver or teacher wants your kids dressed for practicality and fun.
2. Dressy clothes for outdoor play or recess can be hazardous. The excess fabric can easily catch or snag on playground equipment and can create running hazards as well.
3. Kids need to be dressed in practical clothes, please.
4. No zippers and buttons on pants.
5. No laces on shoes, only Velcro.
6. No complicated jackets etc.

Avoid Difficult-to-Remove Items

1. It's tempting, yes, and parents can even argue that tights keep legs covered in cold weather. That part is true, but imagine being a child care provider who attempts to continuously get kids undressed and dressed for potty time or changing diapers while going through layers of tights and zippered jeans that go over underwear or diapers many times in a day.
2. It's a lot of work a lot of times throughout the day and it frustrates both adults and children.
3. It also takes time away from lessons and work in class.
4. For Toilet learning children, the delay causes accidents which are embarrassing for them.

Choose Easy-to-Manage Outfits

1. 2-year-old to age 7, need simple **pull-on type of clothing** during the day when in daycare or school.

2. When seconds count between a successful bathroom break and an unfortunate accident, kids need "dash-n-go" style clothing.
3. In our experience, students are embarrassed when they can unsnap something, but cannot re-snap afterward and have to ask for assistance.
4. **Please help them to do it themselves at home. It might take longer than you like, but remember, success breeds success and confidence.**
5. **Plan ahead and let them dress themselves on the weekend to prepare them for school mornings when time is of the essence.**
6. At home, have your child demonstrate/practice that they can successfully re-fasten pants or other garments before they wear them to school. And praise them lavishly!

Leave Bows and Hats at Home

1. A hair bow that is affixed around a ponytail is needed to keep hair out of the face.
2. A fancy clip-on bow that keeps sliding out (or continuously gets yanked out) of a child's hair should be left at home.
3. Please do not use fancy barrettes and clips that can hurt a child's tender head when they lie down at naptime.
4. Ball caps or simple sunhats can be great for field trips or outdoor play, and warm hats are essential in cold weather.
5. It is challenging for our teachers to keep up with accessories like these.
6. We cannot be responsible for fancy hats or clothing that is just for style and is easily taken off and lost or damaged

Dress for the Season

1. Sweats in the summer? Shorts when it's 50 degrees?
2. Please send your child in "weather appropriate" clothing. This will remove all limitations as to what they can do or not do that day. For example, we engage in messy painting and outdoor play on a daily basis.
3. Children are very active throughout the day. Please send your child in comfortable clothing that you do not mind getting accidentally stained or dirty and messy.
4. Parents need to be aware of the seasons and temperature forecasts.
5. **Please remember we go out in all weather conditions, unless we have a "weather/temperature advisory".**
6. Some families keep an extra set of clothes in their car in case of surprise weather changes.

Don't Forget the Jacket

1. Please do not send your child to School without a jacket on cool days, only to shiver outside during much-needed outdoor time.

2. If possible, purchase an inexpensive jacket that can stay in your kid's individual box at School (label with your child's name prominently) so that your child is always prepared in case an unexpected cool front comes through.
3. Please send only simple-to-zip jackets with a built-in hood that the children can put on themselves as we have shown them at School.
4. **Please remember we go out in all weather conditions, unless we have a “weather/temperature advisory”.**

Provide Sturdy Sneakers

1. **Outdoor shoes that can put on independently are essential items in our classrooms.** Good ole' socks and slip-on tennis shoes are the best footwear for kids on the go.
2. **Indoor slippers that can put on independently are essential items in our classrooms.**
3. Leave sandals (**no open-toed shoes at School**) and flip-flops at home unless kids can independently take them off and put on a packed pair of socks and tennis shoes. Just imagine having to remove and change shoes on multiple students before going anywhere...isn't it hard enough with your own kids?
4. If your child can't tie their shoelaces, then do us a big favor and **send ONLY Velcro-style or slip-on style shoes.**

Bring a Change of Clothes

1. Place a seasonally appropriate change of a complete set of clothes in a gallon-size Ziploc and label with your child's name and send it to School. We will leave it at the bottom of the backpack that currently stays at School in their individual bins.
2. **Please replace anything that comes home soiled/dirty ASAP.**
3. Replace these clothes as the seasons change and as your child grows (something parents often forget to do).
4. **Please send at least 3 sets of complete outfits for toilet learning students. This must include an undershirt/t-shirt, underwear, socks and “weather appropriate” outerwear.**

Please Note

1. Clothing should be free from sayings or illustrations that the school deems inappropriate.
2. Children are not permitted to attend school wearing pajamas, a costume or pieces of a costume unless these have been designated as attire for a special day.
3. Please label all of your child's clothing with your child's first and last name, initials only are not sufficient. PBMS is not responsible for missing items.
4. If items are not labeled, PBMS reserves the right to label all items as needed.
(SG4/22)