



Dress Code for Women

Thank you for coming to serve here at New Day! This dress code is meant to be a practical guide to help our female volunteers and interns dress appropriately while in China. This list was created for both cultural as well as practical reasons.

Living in China, we want to be culturally sensitive to the country in which we are serving, and one aspect of that is to go out of our way to dress appropriately by local standards.. The Chinese people, especially the older generation, are very modest. We can be fashionable but modest at the same time. Keep in mind that our ultimate goal is to draw people to the heart of God. We do not want our clothing to detract from the work we are doing.

Practically speaking, especially when working in the Foster Home, the work requires a lot of bending, reaching, sitting on the floor, etc. Clothing that is too tight or too loose may get in the way of the work you are assigned to do. Another important practical consideration is clothing that is easy to clean and quick to dry.

Shirts

- Tee shirts, polos and button downs are most appropriate.
- Please do not wear tank tops while volunteering with the foster home or school. When you are off duty, you are welcome to wear them but please make sure the straps are at least 2 fingers wide.
- Layering is important. Temperatures can change throughout the day, so remembering to have a jacket or sweater nearby is very helpful.
- *Things to watch for:*
 - Necklines that gape when you lean forward
 - Shirts that are short, exposing the back or stomach (even when you are reaching up or bending down)
 - Tee shirts or tank tops that are low in the front or back
 - Shirts that are see-through

Pants

- All Year: Jeans and pants are great
- Summer: Capris and long shorts are also appropriate
- *Things to watch for:*
 - Waistbands that are low and expose the back or stomach when leaning forward or sitting down (Goal: pants and shirts should always meet or overlap)

Skirts

- Skirts that are not too short are more than appropriate when volunteering with the school, around our campus and while sightseeing in Beijing.
- When working in the foster home, skirts are impractical. They're easy for the children to tug on and can be revealing if you're spending a good amount of time sitting on the floor. (If you are most comfortable in a skirt, mid-length loose skirts with bike shorts or yoga pants underneath are appropriate.)

Shoes

- Shoes that are easy to slip on and off are the most practical when volunteering in the Foster Home, since you take your shoes off every time you come inside
- Good walking shoes are best when sightseeing around Beijing
- Flip flops or sandals in the summer are fine, but keep in mind that the streets in China can be quite dirty.

Seasonal Tips...

Summer:

- The temperatures can be quite warm (temperatures well over 100 degrees Fahrenheit in July and August) and very humid
- Light, breathable fabrics are best
- Clothing that is tight is not only immodest but can be very uncomfortable on hot days

Winter:

- It can get extremely windy and cold! Plan to pack a hat, gloves, scarf and wind proof winter coat.
- Layering is important! Plan to pack long underwear, warm socks, and plenty of layers.

Spring and Autumn:

- These are both very pleasant times of year to be in Beijing. The temperatures are very mild, with low humidity
- It can be rainy during both these seasons, so plan to pack a waterproof jacket.
- It can still be chilly in the mornings and evenings, so plan to layer during these seasons as well.

Don't forget to pack...

- A modest bathing suit – you never know when you might get to wear it!
- Shower shoes
- A water resistant windbreaker or rain jacket