

DRESS CODE (K-8)

School uniforms are important for a number of reasons. As part of the Catholic school tradition, uniforms help to create a Catholic identity. Uniforms, which distinguish school clothes from play clothes, have been connected to better academic and behavioral performance. They help to eliminate the pressure of wearing the right brands or fashions, and can lead young people to realize that their value and worth comes from being children of God, rather than from what they wear or look like. Uniforms provide parents the advantage of lower cost for school clothing and eliminate daily battles and struggles over what clothes children will wear to school. Saint Michael School students in kindergarten through eighth grade are expected to adhere to the dress code as outlined below. The administration reserves the right to make discretionary judgments regarding appropriateness of student dress/fashion not explicitly covered by this dress code.

Girls Uniform:

- Plaid jumper, skirt, or skort. Must be appropriate length: 2 inches above the knee or longer
- Skirts are to be worn at the waist and are not to be rolled to shorten length.
- Shorts are to be worn under the uniform.
- Leggings must be worn under jumpers, skirts, and skorts from November 1 through the end of February (K-5th grade).

Boys and Girls Pants:

- Khaki and Black twill straight leg pant (no flare legs, no low rise, no slits in hem, no extra pockets, no fancy stitching)
- Pants are not to be baggy, saggy or tight. No skinny pants or draw string pants. All pants must have button closure. No elastic cuffs on bottom of the pants.
- Pants and shorts may be purchased at a store of your choice as long as they comply with the stated rules.

Shorts:

- Khaki and Black uniform shorts. Must be 2 inches above the knee or longer.
- May be worn August through October 31, and March 1 through May (K-5th grade).
- Must be appropriate length, no shorter than fingertip/mid-thigh. Not to go lower than knee length.
- Shorts should be neither tight-fitting nor baggy and must be worn at the waist.
- Pants and shorts may be purchased at a store of your choice as long as they comply with the stated rules.

Belts (optional):

- Belts, if worn, are to be solid black, white, or brown (no decorations). No cloth belts or colored belts.

Shirts:

- White, Black, or Red.
- White, black, and red banded polos may be worn by the K-8th grade students.
- Polo or oxford (long or short sleeves).
- Girls - blouse (plain white, no lace or ruffles on collar, no cap sleeves).
- No logos
- Not too oversized.
- Shirts need to be buttoned (except for the collar button).
- Anything worn under the uniform shirt must be either solid white or black undershirts, black undershirt can only be worn underneath the black or red polo; no words, colors, pictures, logos or print.
- Shirts and blouses are to be tucked in at all times so that belt loops or waistbands can be seen. Banded polos do not need to be tucked in, but t-shirts underneath them do.

Sweaters/Sweatshirts:

- Cardigan sweaters can be plain white or black button up, no zippers. Students can wear these during the day as long as they are plain, no embellishments.
- Sweatshirts need to be solid black, red or white crewneck only. No hoodies.
- Spirit wear sweatshirts that are crewnecks, can be worn to school during the day,
- No Hoodies, including the spirit wear hoodie can be worn during the school day.
- ¼ zip and full zip St. Michael fleece or sweatshirt may be worn during the day as part of the uniform.
- All jackets, coats, and outerwear need to be taken off during the school day.
- Any other jackets or sweatshirts may be worn to and from school and at recess only.
- St. Michael School or club shirts may be worn on Fridays for Spirit Day with uniform bottoms.

Shoes and socks/stockings/leggings:

- Athletic shoes are to be worn with the school uniform. Athletic shoes are closed-toe, closed-heel shoes designed for physical activity and daily school use. They should have a secure fit, rubber sole, and traditional athletic construction.
- Shoes intended primarily as recovery footwear, clogs, slides, sandals, Crocs, or similar styles (including Kane-style recovery shoes) are not considered athletic shoes.
- Snow Boots can be worn on snowy days but students must bring athletic shoes to change into during the school day. Boots with glitter or sequins are not able to be worn during the school day. Extreme styles in boots are not allowed.
- Extremes designs in footwear are not allowed and are left to the discretion of the administrator.
- Socks – need to be solid white or black but can have a small logo on the sock. Socks need to match and must be able to be seen by the teacher.
- Girls may also wear black leggings under the uniform skirt/jumper in cold weather (school pants, capris and dance pants are not allowed under the uniform skirt/jumper). Leggings are tight-fitting, ankle length (no capri length) leg coverings. Leg coverings that are loose fitting, fall below the ankle and/or flare at the bottom are considered pants, not leggings. Leggings need to go all the way to the ankle.

Gym Attire:

- ALL GRADES: Shoes appropriate for a gym floor (tennis shoes, running shoes, etc.).
- 5- 8th graders - Appropriate gym attire can be worn during P.E. All shirts must have sleeves and cover the midsection of the body, and all shorts must be an appropriate length and not tight. If there is writing on the shirts, it must be minimal and appropriate. This is up to the students if they want to take the time to change out for P.E. The P.E. teacher has the ability to discern level of appropriateness and will inform the student if there is an issue. Tennis shoes must be worn in order to participate in P.E.
- Gym t-shirts are not to be tied at the back to shorten them up.

Hair:

- Hair must be well groomed. Extremes in hair styles/colors are unacceptable.
- Wigs, hair pieces and hair extensions are not allowed.
- Boys' hair should not touch the eyebrows in the front or the collar in the back. Sideburns and hair covering the ear should be no longer than halfway down the ear on the sides. Boys must be clean shaven (no facial hair). Students will be given a warning and allowed one week to get their hair trimmed. If the hair is not trimmed after that time, parents will be called and the student will not return to school until the hair is cut.
- Girls' hair should be kept out of the eyes. Girls may wear simple hair accessories.
- Hats, bandanas, head scarves are not permitted.

Jewelry:

- Girls may wear small post earrings, one on each earlobe. For safety reasons, they may not wear hoops, dangles or earrings that hang below the earlobe. Boys may not wear earrings.
- Jewelry permitted: Wristwatches are permitted. However, watches may not be used as a cellular device during school hours.
- Religious jewelry including medals and crosses with a simple chain are permitted

Make up and Personal Appearance

- Only clear or light pink nail polish is permitted. Natural nails should be maintained at an appropriate, conservative length. Artificial nails or nail extensions are not permitted.
- Face, eye, and lip makeup may not be worn.
- Hair must remain a natural color. Highlights or other artificial coloring are not permitted.

Other Points:

- Uniforms should be neat, clean and mended (when necessary). Clothing with holes should be replaced. It would be best to have at least two uniforms in order that the child may always comply with the uniform regulations.
- All clothing should be marked with the child's name.
- Students may not wear tattoos or draw on their skin.
- Scout and Brownie uniforms may only be worn on troop meeting days.

No Uniform Days: Students must follow the guidelines below for no uniform days:

Pants: Dress pants, khakis, capris (mid-calf length), overalls, loose knit slacks, colored jeans, blue jeans may be worn. Pants not permitted include:

- Baggy or saggy pants
- Pants, jeans or capris that are frayed, faded, multi-bleached, or that have holes or rips.
- Leggings or pants that are skin tight.

Skirts/Dresses: Skirts/split skirts and dresses may be worn and must be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee.

Shirts/Blouses - Shirts must be modest - long enough to sufficiently cover the midriff and no low-cut necklines. No off the shoulder shirts may be worn, even with another shirt underneath it. Tank tops and sleeveless tops are not allowed. Shirts must be neat and clean. Clothing that is offensive, immoral or otherwise inappropriate in a Catholic school environment is not acceptable.

Shorts other than the school uniform shorts may be worn. They must be an appropriate length; fingertip length/mid-thigh. Spandex shorts are not allowed.

Shoes and Socks: Shoes and sandals must be worn with socks. For safety reasons, heels higher than two inches are not permitted.

Jewelry and makeup: uniform regulations remain in effect.

Cold Weather

Please have your child/ren dressed appropriately (cap/ear band, mittens/gloves, boots) on cold days as they do go outside for recess unless the temperature/wind chill is below zero. When the weather gets especially cold girls may wear black or white sweats/wind pants to recess. These and any other pants girls may wear to and from school may not be worn in the school building during the school day.

THE ADMINISTRATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE DISCRETIONARY JUDGEMENTS REGARDING THE APPROPRIATENESS OF STUDENT DRESS AND FASHION NOT EXPLICITLY COVERED BY THE DRESS CODE.