

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, especially in a time when fashions have become increasingly more immodest. Saint Joseph 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. The uniform policy will be strictly enforced.

Girls Uniform:

- Plaid jumper (K-5) or skirt (6-8)
- Length must be no shorter than one finger width from the floor when kneeling.
- 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.

Boys and Girls Pants:

- Navy blue twill straight leg pant (no flare legs, no low rise, no slits in hem, no extra pockets, no fancy stitching)
- Khaki straight leg pant (optional for grades 6-8)
- Pants are not to be baggy, saggy or tight.
- The following ONLY are authorized school uniform pants:
 - St. Joseph School uniform pant (adjustable waistband is offered)
 - Pius uniform pant or Dennis uniform pant (www.dennisuniform.com)
 - JC Penney (Izod) pleated twill pant
 - Sears (French Toast) pleated twill pant

Shorts:

- Navy uniform walking shorts (purchased through school only)
- May be worn August through October 31, April 1 through May
- No lower than knee length, no shorter than 3 inches above the knee
- Shorts should be neither tight-fitting or baggy and must be worn at the waist.

Belts (optional):

- Belts, if worn, are to be solid black, blue or brown (no decorations).

Shirts:

- White, light blue, dark blue, maroon
- Polo or oxford (long or short sleeves)
- White turtleneck
- Girls - blouse (plain white, no lace or ruffles)
- No logos
- Not too oversized
- Shirts need to be buttoned (except for the collar button)
- Anything worn under the uniform shirt must be solid white; 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 polo shirts are not allowed.

Sweaters/Sweatshirts:

- Solid navy blue or white pullover, cardigan or vest sweater
- Plain navy or white sweatshirt
- Dark green, navy, white or gray Saint Joseph School sweatshirt

- Uniform shirts must be worn under sweaters and sweatshirts.
- No hoods or zippers
- Any other jackets or sweatshirts may be worn to and from school and at recess only.

Shoes and socks/stockings/leggings:

- Suitable shoes (dress, tennis, loafer, sports) are to be worn. All shoes and sandals must have a back or strap around the back of the foot. Heels are not allowed.
- Black, solid navy blue, dark green, yellow or white socks, anklets, knee highs or tights must be worn with shoes or sandals; with white socks, only small logos (no stripes) when worn with shorts, jumpers or skirts.
- Girls may also wear black or navy blue 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 (basically, stockings without feet). Leg coverings that are loose fitting, fall below the ankle and/or flare at the bottom are considered pants, not leggings.

Gym Uniform:

- ALL GRADES: Shoes appropriate for a gym floor (tennis shoes, running shoes, etc.)
- GRADES 5-8: Shorts (not short shorts) and appropriate t-shirts

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).
- Girls' hair should be kept out of the eyes. Girls may wear simple hair accessories.
- Hats, bandanas, head scarves, head bands with tails and terry cloth sweatbands are not permitted.

Makeup and Jewelry:

- Makeup and nail polish are not permitted. Junior high girls may wear clear nail polish only. Tinted acne medication is permitted.
- Jewelry permitted: Wristwatch, religious medal pinned to uniform or worn with simple chain, religious pins.
- Girls may wear small 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.
- One ring may be worn in junior high.

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.