



UNIFORM DRESS CODE

The students of St. Mary's Catholic School in Pontiac have the honor of wearing a uniform to school. The uniform is an outward sign to the community that signifies how highly valued education is to the parents and students of our school. Students should wear the uniform with pride and respect for the long tradition of Catholic education at St. Mary's. If, due to an emergency, it is necessary for a child to come to school without the entire uniform, the child should bring a note from home as to the reason he/she is unable to wear the entire uniform.

St. Mary's School has a uniform dress code to establish a business-like atmosphere in the classroom. It is mandatory that parents support this dress code. They should see that children leave their homes well-groomed and in uniform. There is a correlation between the pride students take in their appearance and the pride they take in their schoolwork and in their school.

Boys' Uniform

- Navy blue or khaki pants (no jeans, cargo pants, hip hugger pants, or sweatpants are permitted)
- Belts must be worn if pants have belt loops.
- White or navy blue (long or short-sleeved) polo shirts. Turtlenecks or mock turtlenecks may also be worn. Shirts should be tucked in at all times. No T-shirts or shirts with emblems are allowed.
- Solid navy blue, khaki, black, or white socks must be worn with pants and shorts.; they may have a logo on them. No patterned socks allowed.
- A plain navy cardigan or school-designated crew neck sweatshirt may be worn over the uniform if desired. Hoodies may not be worn in the classroom as part of the uniform

Girls' Uniform

- A navy blue or khaki scooter style skirt (with built-in shorts) OR a solid navy blue or khaki jumper (with shorts underneath). Skirts and jumpers should be of modest length (no shorter than three inches above the knee). Girls may wear solid navy or black leggings under skirts in cold weather.
- Girls also have the option of wearing navy blue or khaki pants (no jeans, cargo pants, jeggings/leggings, or sweatpants are permitted).
- Belts must be worn if pants have belt loops.
- White or navy blue (long or short-sleeved) knit polo shirts. Turtlenecks or mock turtlenecks may also be worn. Shirts should be tucked in at all times. No T-shirts or shirts with emblems are allowed.
- Solid navy blue, khaki, black, or white socks must be worn with skirts, jumpers, Capri pants, and shorts; they may have a logo on them. In place of socks, girls may also wear solid navy, khaki, black, or white knee socks or tights. No patterned socks allowed.
- A plain navy cardigan or school-designated crew neck sweatshirt may be worn over the uniform. Hoodies may not be worn in the classroom as part of the uniform.

Hot Weather Dress

During the Fall and Spring, both boys and girls have the option of wearing navy blue or khaki walking shorts (no cargo shorts) with their uniform shirts. Times will be at the discretion of the principal. The shorts must be no higher than three inches above the top of the knee on both boys and girls. Girls may also choose to wear uniform-style Capri pants in navy blue or khaki. If the shorts have a belt loop, a belt must be worn. White, khaki, black, or navy socks must be worn.

Physical Education Uniform

Students in Grades 4 through 8 will wear a P.E. uniform consisting of light blue T-shirts, plain navy gym shorts, socks, and tennis shoes. No emblems should be worn on clothing. P. E. shorts should be no shorter than three inches above the knee.



Additional Dress Code Requirements

- Shoes: For safety's sake, no Crocs, flip-flops, or sandals are allowed. These rules apply on field trips and casual days. In colder months, snow boots should not be worn during the school day except for recess. Dress/casual boots (Ugg style) may not be worn with shorts.
- Hair: Hair coloring and unnatural or attention-seeking hairstyles are not allowed. The principal will make the final decision if a hairstyle is not satisfactory.
- Make-up: The use of age-appropriate or natural make-up during the school day or to school events is acceptable, but not encouraged.
- Jewelry: Tasteful jewelry will be allowed. Long, dangling earrings or noisy or excessive jewelry should not be worn. Boys are not allowed to wear earrings.
- Body Piercing and Tattoos: No body piercing or tattoos are allowed. The principal may make decisions regarding other "fads" as problems occur.

Hairstyles - Diocesan Policy D-155

In accordance with Illinois Public Act 102-0360 (SB817), no diocesan school shall prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists. Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety will be asked to modify their appearance. Revised: 8/2022

Casual Clothes Days

For an announced casual clothes day, students may wear jeans, sweatshirts, sweatpants, T-shirts, and so on. Shorts and capri pants are only allowed when announced by the principal. For the sake of modesty, any shorts, including those worn for P.E. and/or as part of the uniform, should be no shorter than three inches above the knee. Emblems supporting drug or alcohol use or containing obscenities or material in poor taste are never allowed. Bike shorts, jeggings/leggings, or other immodest articles of clothing are not allowed. T-shirts must be worn under tank tops.

Compliance with Uniform Policy

Teachers are to monitor student dress to see that it is in accordance with the dress code described in this handbook. If a student's dress does not conform to the code, the following actions will be taken:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Written Warning
3. Contact with parent by email or phone call
4. Conference with parent and child (at this point it is considered insubordination and detentions will follow)

Updated 8/9/24