

Uniform Policy K-8

The purpose of the dress code is to align with the Holy Spirit's call to modesty and contribute to the positive learning environment of St. Francis de Sales School.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Compendium states that one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is modesty.

530: Purity requires modesty which, while protecting the intimate center of the person, expresses the sensitivity of chastity. It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with the dignity of persons and their communion.

2522: Modesty is decency. It inspires one's choice of clothing. It keeps silence or reserve where there is evident risk of unhealthy curiosity. It is discreet.

2523: Modesty inspires a way of life which makes it possible to resist the allurements of fashion and the pressures of prevailing ideologies.

2524: Teaching modesty to children and adolescents, means awakening in them respect for the human person.

Students are expected to respond to the Holy Spirit's call to modesty by dressing in an appropriate manner that is respectful to themselves and others. Students must abide by the dress code during the school day while on campus or at a school event. The administration reserves the right to make the final decisions concerning the dress code which is especially important when new trends and fads appear. Regular uniform checks will be conducted by teachers and members of the St. Francis de Sales School staff. If a parent has a question regarding dress code, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

Students failing to be dressed in the designated school or gym uniform could:

1. Receive a verbal or written warning
2. Lose their next casual day
3. Receive other disciplinary action at the discretion of teachers and the administration.

Shirts – Boys & Girls

- Must be solid white or light blue
- Either Oxford (button down) or Polo (2-3 button) type
- Blouses (girls only)
- Cotton/mix fabric
- Logos may not appear anywhere on the shirt
- T-shirts/Cami tops worn under the uniform shirt must be white, free of illustrations, and tucked in
- Shirts must be tucked in, always exposing belt or waistband.

Sweaters – Boys & Girls

- Cardigan, pullover, uniform approved fleece/sweatshirt (w/crest embroidery), or vest type sweaters may be worn over the shirt with the shirt collar exposed
- Sweaters must be solid colors: navy blue, white, grey, black, or hunter green
- St. Francis de Sales jackets are permitted
- Any St. Francis spirit apparel or other non-uniform approved sweatshirts/fleeces/coats are only permitted on the playground before school, during lunch recess, & after school.

Skirts/Jumpers – Girls

- Approved plaid may be purchased through Educational Apparel Company (800-776-3034) or <http://www.educationalapparel.com>
- Grades K - 4 wear jumpers--black leggings or shorts may be worn under jumpers.
- Grades 5 - 8 wear skirts--shorts may be worn under skirts.
- Skirts/jumpers may be worn year-round
- Must be of appropriate length; no more than two inches above the knee
- Rolling of waistbands is prohibited

Shorts/Pants/Belts – Boys & Girls

Uniform dress pants are navy blue with belt loops

- Cotton twill
- Flat/Pleated with zipper front
- 2 pocket straight leg with fit at the natural waist and belt loops
- Belts are required for grades 5-8. Belts are encouraged but not required for grades K-4
- Pants with rivets, extra zippers, or pockets in non-traditional places do not meet dress code guidelines.
- Pant hem should not be longer than the top of the shoelaces.
- Black or navy-blue belts must be worn with looped slacks or shorts.
- Navy blue walking short length (see Educational Apparel)
- Shorts may be worn during Aug/Sept/May/June with uniform shirts, sweaters, socks, shoes, etc.

Socks – Boys & Girls

- Solid color in white, black, or navy.
- A minimum size of crew length (covers the ankle)
- Knee Highs are acceptable
- Knit tights with modest knit designs (ex: cable knit) are acceptable
- Sheer or patterned tights do not meet dress code guidelines.
- Opaque Tights (no pattern/no rib/not sheer in Navy or Black) are permitted in grades K-8 (girls only)

Shoes – Boys & Girls

- Shoes are to be black, white, or predominantly black or white. Checked shoes and shoes with colored highlights are reserved for casual days.
- One small logo on the shoe is acceptable if the color of the shoe and logo follow color requirements. Ex: Black shoe with small white logo.
- Black leather dress shoes are acceptable

- White and black saddle shoes are permitted for girls.
- Closed toe, lace up, Velcro, or slip on (must fit so that they don't slip off while walking for safety)
- Heels must not be higher than 1" high
- The following are not permitted: sandals, clogs, flip flops, "heelies," boots of any kind, Crocs, or high tops. Boots are permitted as a part of casual day dress code.
- Shoelaces must be the same color as the shoe and must be tied outside of the shoe

Jewelry – Boys & Girls

- Earrings or other piercings are not permitted for boys.
- Girls: one pair of small, conservative, post or hoop earrings are permitted in ear lobes only
- Religious medal on a chain is permitted if it is dime sized or smaller
- Other necklaces/chains, dangles or stick-on jewels are not allowed
- A watch is permitted however it must be size and style appropriate and silent.
- Rings and bracelets are not permitted.

Hair/Make-Up – Boys & Girls

- Hair must be neat, well groomed, and conservative. No extreme styles (i.e. Mohawks, shaved, braided).
- Dyed, lightened, highlighted, or streaked hair is not permitted
- Make-up or nail polish may not be worn at any time. This includes facial concealer, blush, bronzer and mascara.

Boys

- Cut above the midpoint of the ear, above eyebrows, and off the collar
- Sideburns must not be longer than the middle of the ear
- Facial hair is not permitted

Girls

- Girls may wear one or two braids. Braids with colored fabric or beads are not permitted.
- A student's ethnicity and cultural background will be considered in granting permission to wear multiple-braid hairstyles and colored fabric or beads with braids. Parents are to contact the administrator to request this consideration.
- Hair accessories must match the school colors on the school uniform, be conservative, and with no logos (these are available from Educational Apparel)
- Nails must be of a modest length.
- Nail polish is not permitted at any time.
- Artificial/acrylic nails may not be worn.

Gym Uniform

A separate pair of clean tennis shoes is required for use in physical education class only. These shoes may not be worn in areas outside the gym and may be the color/style of your choice. This is necessary because it protects the floor year-round and cuts down on the need to refinish the floor.

Kindergarten: Belts must be removed and the required tennis shoes (see above)

Grades 1-2: A pair of shorts worn under their pants/jumper and the required tennis shoes (see above)

Grades 3-8

- St. Francis de Sales School logo gym shorts; shorts must reach at least the mid-thigh in length
- Any St. Francis de Sales School or Newark Catholic t-shirt in any color is permitted
- Solid white, navy, or green t-shirts (without logos) are also permitted

Casual Day Student Dress

As a Catholic school community, we expect neat, well-groomed appearances even when dressed casually.

- Shirts must be of appropriate length, loose, and positive. No promotion of alcohol, drugs, smoking, violence, inappropriate activity is permitted. Form fitting, midriffs, tank tops, spaghetti straps, sleeveless tops or abdominal areas showing are also not permitted.
- Cami tops are permitted as long as they are worn under another shirt with sleeves. No bare or “cutout” shoulders.
- Pants must be of appropriate length and fit at the waist without holes or rips. Tight pants, pajamas, tights, stirrups, or leggings are not permitted.
- Jeans are permitted on casual days. Jeans must be neatly fitted, not too tight, and free of holes, rips, or stains.
- Dresses or skirts must be no more than 2 inch above the knee.
- Shorts must reach at least the midthigh in length or relaxed fingertip length.
- Shoes must be closed toe. Sandals, clogs, crocs, flip flops, or slippers are not permitted. Boots are permitted on casual days.
- Hair and jewelry must follow the uniform code. Make-up and nail polish are not permitted.

Student Dress Up Days

School dress up day guidelines are as follows:

- Dress pants must be of appropriate length and fit at the waist. Khakis are permitted as long as they are nicely fitted (i.e., not too tight or too loose), fit at natural waist (no hip huggers or low rise). Jeans and sweatpants are not permitted.
- Skirts may be no more than 2” above the knee.
- Shoes may be closed toe w/heel no taller than 1” high.
- Hair and jewelry must follow the uniform code. Make-up and nail polish are not permitted.
- Boys must wear a collared shirt, tie optional for Dress up.
- Boys may wear an oxford or polo shirt for Spring Pictures. Ties are not required for spring pictures.
- Dresses and shirts will have a modest neckline and will cover the shoulders.
- Girls may wear pants on these days if they are nicely “dressed up.” For Dress up and Science Fair, girls are to be as “dressed up” as equivalent to boys who are wearing shirts and ties.

Please note: **On Fall School Picture Day, students will be in their uniforms.**