

## Section 4: Dress Code

### DRESS CODE

#### **Dress Code Philosophy Statement**

St. Mary Cathedral Catholic Schools' dress code is predicated on the belief that each student is created in *God's image* and *our bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit* (Cor. 6:19). A dress code instills discipline, a sense of community and enhances school pride. Each student's God-given talents and gifts are demonstrated through behavior, action, and achievement in academics, service to others, athletics, spirituality and character development. The Dress Code is intended to focus energies on that which is spiritual and academic while students are in the building: this includes before, during, and after school hours.

#### **Modesty:**

One of the most overlooked virtues in today's society is modesty. Modesty requires that people dress in a fashion that does not call inappropriate attention to their bodies. There is no perfect way to define what constitutes appropriate apparel. There are too many styles of collars, cuts, and lengths to create a comprehensive list of what is acceptable and what is not. However, the underlying principle is that our "bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit" (Corinthians 6:19). Apparel decisions must be reflective of this principle.

Students not in compliance with the dress code will be removed from class and required to make the necessary adjustments

before being allowed to return to class. Missed class time will be considered unexcused time. Students will receive a detention for failure to follow the dress code.

Students are expected to dress modestly on days they are allowed to be out of dress code and when attending school events. There is to be no skin showing at the mid-section regardless of whether the person is sitting, standing, or reaching.

- No part of the hemline (a slit in the side, front or back of the skirt) is to be higher than 3 inches above the knee.
- Clothes that are very tight are not acceptable.

### **General Dress Code guidelines: Grades: Young 5-12**

- Clothing must be neat, clean, and of reasonable size to fit the child. **All polo shirts must have a Logo.** All clothing should be worn in a manner befitting the Christian character of our school.
- Skirts, skorts, walking shorts, jumpers, and dresses must have a **top of the knee** hemline.
- Bare midriffs (male or female) are not allowed. This includes if bare midriff occurs while the student is raising their arms to reach. Clothing must depict self-respect and decency.
- All students must wear collared shirts or blouses that are buttoned at or above the collarbone. All shirts must be tucked in at all times with a belt.
- Hair must be neat and clean. There should be no extreme hair color (only natural hair coloring) and no extreme hairstyles (shavings). Any haircut or hairstyle that draws attention to a student or cause a distraction in the classroom may be considered extreme. The principal reserves the right to judge the

appropriateness of a haircut or hairstyle. Boys must be clean-shaven at all times. Sideburns are allowed but they should be above the earlobes.

- Students must not have visible piercing or tattoos except for pierced ears. No pierced ears allowed on boys.

- On Mass days, boys are to wear a uniform colored, oxford dress shirt and tie with dress slacks. \*\*\*Oxford shirts are not required to have logo.

Girls are to wear either a uniform dress (jumper) or a skirt. NO SWEATSHIRTS or SHORTS WILL BE ALLOWED ON THESE DAYS. All pants/slacks must fit above the hip.

- No sunglasses may be worn within the school building during school hours.

- No hats, bandanas, or head scarves are to be worn during school hours.

- Outerwear (winter coats, gloves, hats) may not be worn during school hours.

- Only St. Mary logo fleece and sports jackets will be permitted. Students may not wear clothing with any other writing on it in grades Young 5- 12.

### **Girls - Grades Y5-8**

- **Shirt: Polo:** Navy or white polo with logo, no sleeveless.

- **Turtleneck shirt:** white or navy and must be worn under polo.

- **Plain white T-shirts** may be worn **under** a polo, turtlenecks, or shirts.

- **Pants/shorts/capris:** Navy blue or Khaki, twill or corduroy waist chinos, plain front, pleated, mid-rise. Shorts may be worn during the months of September, May and June. Shorts should not be any higher than 3” above the knee.

- **Skirt/skorts/ jumpers:** Navy blue, khaki, or approved plaid skirt (clear blue plaid), -pleated skirt, A-line skirt, stretch chino skirt, or jumpers. All skirts must be the **top of the knee length style in Lands End**. \*\*Skirts or jumpers must be worn to Mass.
- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles – solid color of white or navy. **Fleece:** navy blue or white, may be purchased and monogrammed through Make it Mine. No hooded sweatshirts.
- **Socks:** Solid matching color: white, black or navy blue ankle-length or knee-high socks or plain, tights or leggings if dresses/skirts are worn. Leggings under a skirt are permissible, no jeggings or dance pants. Nylons in nude or beige.
- **Shoes:** Athletic shoes are highly recommended but casual or dress shoes may be worn. Heel restriction: 1 inch. Shoes must have a back strap. No sandals for young 5-grade 5, for safety reasons. MS students: Sandals **must** have a back strap.
- **No shorts on Mass day**

### **Boys - Grades Y5-8**

- **Shirt: Polo:** Navy or white polo, short or long sleeved with logo. Oxford shirt-short or long sleeve white or navy blue. Mass day students need a white, navy, or French blue oxford collared shirt. These shirts do not need a logo for mass however, if these shirts are worn any other day but Mass day they are required to have a logo.
- **Turtle neck shirt:** White or navy and must be worn under sweater.
- **Slacks/pants/shorts:** Navy blue or khaki, twill or corduroy waist, flat front, pleated, corduroy. **No cargo style on Mass**

**days.** Shorts may be worn during the months of September, May and June. **No shorts on Mass Day.**

- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles – solid color —white, navy.
- **Fleece:** navy blue or white
- **Socks:** Solid color white, black or navy blue.
- **Shoes:** Athletic shoes are highly recommended but casual or dress shoes may be worn. Shoes must have a back strap. No sandals for young 5-grade 5, for safety reasons. MS students: Sandals **must** have a back strap.

### **Girls – Grades 9-12**

- **Shirts:** All Polo shirts **must** have an approved SM logo, \*Logo wear can be purchased at: Make it Mine Design: 989-448-8850.
- **Polo shirts:** white, navy, cobalt (Lands End only for cobalt) short, long,  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeved.
- **Blouses:** white and navy (worn for Mass, no logo necessary)
- **Oxford shirts:** White, French blue, or navy blue. Short, long,  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeved.
- **Turtlenecks:** white, navy, must be worn under a polo.
- **Plain white T-shirts** may be worn under polo shirts.
- **No** strapless or spaghetti strap tops at any time.
- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles-solid color- white or navy. Sweaters can have the SM logo.
- **Fleece:** navy blue or white (required). Polo shirt underneath must have logo. No hooded sweatshirts.
- **Pants/Shorts:** Navy blue or khaki dress slacks. (No jean style pants). Shorts may be worn in September, May and June only. Shorts must be at the knee. **No shorts on Mass Days.**
- **Skirts/skorts:** Navy blue, khaki skirt. Pleated skirt, A-line skirt, stretch chino skirt, or approved plaid skirt (clear blue

plaid). Must have a **at the knee hemline**. All skirts must be the **top of the knee length style in Lands End**. \*\*Skirts, uniform colored dresses or skorts must be worn to Mass.

- **Socks:** Solid colored matching socks, tights, knee highs (white, black, navy if worn with skirts, capris, or shorts) Nylons in nude or beige. Leggings under dresses and skirts only. No jeggings or dance pants.

- **Shoes:** Students may wear dress or tennis shoes. Sandals may be worn during the months of September, May and June only. *Socks are optional with the wearing of sandals*. Sandals **must** have a back strap, for safety reasons. There is a 1½ inch heel restriction on all shoes.

- **Belts:** Black or brown belts. No ornamentation or wording. Must be worn at all times.

### **Boys – Grades 9-12**

- **Shirts:** All polo shirts, **must** have an approved SM logo,

\*Logo wear may be purchased at Make it Mine Design:  
989-448-8850

- **Polo shirts:** white, navy, cobalt (Lands End only for cobalt); short or long sleeved.

- **Oxford shirts:** white, navy blue, French Blue \*\*\*No logo necessary if worn with a tie. If oxford shirts are worn no Mass days without a tie, shirt must have a logo.

- **Turtlenecks:** white, navy, may be worn under a sweater or polo shirt.

- **Plain white t- shirts** may be worn under polo shirts, turtleneck shirts, or sweater.

- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles-solid color- white, navy. Sweaters **may** have to the SM logo (not required). Polo shirts worn underneath need to have a logo.
- **Fleece:** navy blue or white (required), may be purchased and monogrammed. Polo shirt underneath must have logo. No hooded sweatshirts.
- **Pants/Shorts:** (**Note: may be purchased** from J.C. Penney, Sears, Old Navy, Lee brand). Navy blue or khaki relaxed fit dress slacks. (No jean style pants). Flat front, pleated waist, corduroy. **No cargo style on Mass days.** Shorts for September, May and June only. No Shorts on Mass days.
- **Socks:** Matching– Crew socks / no-shows / low cut allowed with shorts.
- **Shoes:** Students may wear dress or tennis shoes of their choice. *Clog style shoes are permissible except for cloth slipper styles.* Sandals may be worn during the months of September, May and June only. *Socks are optional with the wearing of sandals.* Sandals **must** have a back strap.
- **Belts:** Black or Brown with No ornamentation or wording.

### **Additional Dress Code Information**

- Attire not specifically allowed by the Dress Code is not to be worn.
- The school principal/assistant principal will make the final determination on all uniform issues.

- As a show of respect hats, caps or hoods will be removed upon entering the building during the school day. Winter coats and jackets **are not** to be worn in the classrooms or in the lunchroom.
- Slack length must be at or below the ankle, but above the floor.
- Boys are not to wear earrings or other piercings.
- Piercings, other than earrings, are not permitted for girls.
- Girls: hair and makeup must be tastefully done using natural colors.
- Boys must be clean-shaven at all times; sideburns are to be no lower than the earlobe. Hair length must not reach below the collar.
- It is the responsibility of the teachers and staff to enforce the dress code. These expectations should be honored at all school functions.
- \*\*\*\*COBALT blue colored shirts and French blue oxfords are for high school.
- \*\*\*\*Free choice Fridays are only for High School- if a student violates dress code Monday - Thursday or receives a detention, they forfeit their free choice for that Friday.



## **Dress Code - Game Days - (Grades 7-12)**

Varsity teams should be coordinated in their dress. The dress code is in effect on all game days, during the school day, and to contests where teams do not dress for competition before leaving school. All teams must have Athletic Director permission to modify any part of this dress code.

**JV & Varsity Boys:** A team can wear a shirt and tie with dress pants. Team polo or a school uniform shirt may be worn with uniform pants. A team jersey may be worn over the tops listed above.

**JV & Varsity Girls:** A team can wear an appropriate shirt with dress pants or skirt. Team polo or a school uniform shirt may be worn with school dress pants or skirt. A team jersey may be worn over the tops listed above.

**Junior High Girls and Boys:** A team may wear school uniform shirts with the team jersey and school uniform pants, with everything tucked in.

## **Spirit Days/Jean Days/ Free Choice Fridays**

Jeans that are in good repair may be worn. Snowbird apparel permitted on these days. Free Choice Fridays will be revoked for the whole school when policies and procedures cannot be followed. This will be a school-wide loss of privilege at the principal's discretion.