

UNIFORM POLICY

The development of the following uniform policy reflects the input from students, parents, and staff. At the heart of its design lies the mission and philosophy of Sioux Falls Catholic Schools.

A uniform policy demonstrates a visible sign of self-respect and minimizes distractions which can get in the way of learning and also helps eliminate competition in dress and fashion. Ultimately, the uniform policy allows students and faculty the opportunity to focus on our mission.

The uniform policy will be successful only to the extent that students, parents and faculty each accept responsibility for enforcement of the policy. Administration and faculty appreciates everyone's efforts toward that goal.

HAIRSTYLES

The intent of this guideline will be for students to keep their natural hair color with only minimal tinting allowed. Students are allowed to style and tint hair within the realm of normal hair color for the individual. Hair must be neat and clean in appearance and must not be a distraction to others. Students are not allowed to have words, insignias, etc., shaved in any part of their hair. Boys must keep hair length above the eyes and not touching the collar. Sideburns must not extend below the ear lobe.

PANTS

Colors for pants may range from light tan to brown, those colors typically considered KHAKI. This does not include black, gray, rust, maroon or green. In addition, pants that contain extra zippers or pockets will not be in compliance. Cargo pants do not comply with the O'Gorman uniform policy. The intended style of pants is that of DRESS PANTS, flat or pleated front. Pants must be the appropriate size for the individual and will be worn at the waist. Leg length must also be appropriate for the individual. Pants must be hemmed. Pants with frayed ends on the legs are not allowed. Acceptable dress pants may be purchased anywhere. Any pants that have belt loops must be worn with a belt. Pants must not be altered by removing belt loops.

SHIRTS

Long and short sleeve polo shirts will be considered the primary shirt. Polo shirts must have a true collar and must be of sufficient length to be tucked in while sitting, standing, or walking. Polo shirts must have sleeves and cannot have writing on them beyond small insignias and logos. Sweaters may be worn if a polo shirt with a collar or a turtleneck is worn underneath. Turtleneck sweaters will be allowed without a polo or other shirt underneath only if they are appropriately sized and long enough to not expose any midriff upon sitting, walking, or standing.

SHOES

The intent of this guideline is to have a dress type shoe. Students are to wear solid black or brown dress shoes with only minimal accenting allowed. Open-back shoes that comply with the intent of the guideline will be allowed. Shoes must have a hard sole and be intended for outdoor wear. No webbed or canvas top shoes are allowed. Shoes must be fully laced and tied at all times. Shoes must be kept clean and in good condition at all times. Sandals, flip flops, shoes with open toe, or similar products are not allowed. Boots of any kind are not allowed. All students must wear socks.

SPECIAL EVENTS WEAR

On various occasions students (athletes, cheerleaders, fine arts, etc.) may wear an approved activity shirt during the school day. This special events wear applies to shirts only. Other regular uniform policy rules apply. Coaches and advisors are responsible for coordinating the special events wear for their group. Outerwear of any kind (including warm-up jackets and/or hooded sweatshirts) is not acceptable for special events wear. The administration must be notified of and approve any special events wear. Teams not adhering to these guidelines will forfeit the privilege to wear activity shirts for their organization or team.

OVERALL APPEARANCE

Being unable to list all exceptions to the uniform policy, students and parents are asked to cooperate by wearing clothing styles congruent with the *intended* uniform policy. Some specific exceptions include:

- Males are to be clean shaven and are not allowed to wear beards, mustaches, or earrings.
- Females are allowed to wear earrings, although excessive ear piercings are not allowed.
- Items such as nose rings, tongue rings, and/or body piercing for either gender are not allowed.
- Tattoos must be concealed.

ALTERNATIVE DRESS OPPORTUNITIES

On specified occasions, students have the option of dressing down or dressing up from the regular uniform policy. These days will be announced in advance and must be pre-approved. Prior to scheduling a "Dress Down/Up Day," a faculty supervisor must contact Administration for approval. The following regulations apply to these days:

Dress Up Days & Casual Dress Days: Dress attire must be modest and appropriate (size and nature of the clothing) for the school environment.

The following are examples of inappropriate dress for the school environment:

- Bare shoulders or midriffs
- Offensive writing or symbols on shirts
- Frayed, tattered or torn clothing
- Caps or bandanas
- Exposed cleavage
- Short skirts or shorts
- Spandex workout pants (yoga pants) or leggings
- Pajamas (unless specifically mentioned)