



S.F. FRANCIS
of the Lakes Catholic School

SCHOOL *Uniform Policy*

School uniforms are required for all in K-8th.



St. Francis of the Lakes Uniform Policy

Why Do Our Students Wear Uniforms?

Wearing uniforms in school creates the foundation for a cohesive community of learners and removes distractions from the classroom, helps students focus in school, and provides an element of unity and school pride.

Uniforms in Catholic schools form a unique symbol for several key aspects of Catholic education, (1) equality, (2) discipline, and (3) costs.

1. Equality: Service to the cause of justice lay at the very heart of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and therefore plays a key role in Catholic education. The uniform thus becomes a symbol, not of sameness, but of equality. Equality in the sense that we are all created equally in the image of God.
2. Discipline: Catholic education distinguishes itself by fostering an effective atmosphere for a learning and loving community. On this level, the uniform represents order and discipline -- discipline based on mutual respect among students and between students and teachers. The uniform does not exist to eradicate differences between people. The uniform is an outward sign that the measure of human value rests in the heart, mind, and spirit of the individual rather than with how fashionable one may appear.
3. Costs: A third sound reason for school uniforms is costs. Education can be expensive enough for families and for communities. The uniform can lend much needed relief to the pocketbooks of students and parents that may otherwise feel compelled to spend hard-earned dollars on popular name brand clothing.

Finally, a school uniform encourages modesty, which is of great import in the Catholic faith. Pursuant to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "purity requires *modesty*, an integral part of temperance. Modesty protects the intimate center of the person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden. It is ordered to chastity to whose sensitivity it bears witness. It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with the dignity of persons and their solidarity." *See*, Catechism of the Catholic Church, [2521]. Further, "the forms taken by modesty vary from one culture to another. Everywhere, however, modesty exists as an intuition of the spiritual dignity proper to man. It is born with the awakening consciousness of being a subject. Teaching modesty to children and adolescents means awakening in them respect for the human person." *Id.*, [2524].

Who Wears the School Uniform?

All students kindergarten through eighth grade are required to be in a school uniform each day that school is in session unless it is a designated “out of uniform” day. Preschool students are not required to wear a uniform.

What Happens When a Student is Not in Uniform?

We value the benefits of a school uniform for our students and ask that families respectfully follow the uniform policy and help teachers and administration enforce it. The following is the process taken when a student’s clothing is in violation of the uniform policy:

- First Violation*- A uniform violation email to parents will be sent.
- Second Violation- Parents will be called.
- Third Violation- Parents will be called and student will have an in-school consequence assigned by the principal (given during non-instructional time).

**The student may be asked to change into uniform clothing (provided it is in stock at the school).*

Uniform Options for Girls:

Bottoms:

- Navy uniform or twill slacks, pants, or capri’s
 - *No cargo styles*
 - *No “skinny” styles*
 - *No athletic pants*
 - *No cuffed/elastic ankles*
- Navy or plaid drop waist uniform jumper (Donald’s #9455) – no red or white
 - Jumpers shall be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee
 - White uniform blouses, white polos, or white turtlenecks shall be worn under the jumper – no red or navy
- Navy or plaid skirt- no red or white (Donald’s #9455)
 - Skirts shall be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee
- Navy uniform shorts (September & May only); *no cargo styles*
 - Shorts shall be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee
 - *Shorts shall not be worn to Mass*
- Navy, plain white, or true red leggings shall only be worn under jumpers or skirts (*leggings alone are not allowed*)

Tops:

- Plain white, true red, or navy polo shirts long-sleeved or short-sleeved
- Plain white, true red, or navy cardigans, pull-over sweaters, ½ zips, full-zip, sweater vests, crew sweatshirts
 - Must be worn over the top of plain white, true red, or navy polos with collar
 - No embellishments such as sparkles, heathered, or designs
 - *Hooded sweatshirts are only allowed in grades 5th-8th and need to be worn over the top of plain white, true red, or navy polos (with collar)*

Footwear:

- Students shall not wear high-heeled shoes, platforms, sandals without backs, or flip-flops; socks must always be worn
- Students shall not wear outdoor boots in the classroom during the school day

- Students must have a clean pair of clean athletic shoes for Physical Education class

Uniform Options for Boys:

Bottoms:

- Navy uniform or twill slacks, pants, or capri's
 - *No cargo styles*
 - *No "skinny" styles*
 - *No athletic pants*
 - *No cuffed/elastic ankles*
- Navy uniform shorts (September & May only); *no cargo styles*
 - Shorts shall be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee
 - *Shorts shall not be worn to Mass*
- Belts are encouraged but not required

Tops:

- Plain white, true red, or navy polo shirts long-sleeved or short-sleeved with or without school logo
- Plain white, true red, or navy cardigans, pull-over sweaters, ½ zips, full-zips, sweater vests, crew sweatshirts
 - Must be worn over the top of plain white, true red, or navy polos (with collar)
 - *Hooded sweatshirts are only allowed in grades 5th-8th and need to be worn over the top of plain white, true red, or navy polos (with collar)*

Footwear:

- Students shall not wear sandals without backs or flip-flops; socks must always be worn
- Students shall not wear outdoor boots in the classroom during the school day
- Students must have a clean pair of clean athletic shoes for Physical Education class

Spirit or Jeans Day

- Students who wear jeans need to wear shirts or sweatshirts with the school logo or a "Spirit Wear" shirt.
- Students shall not wear skinny jeans or jeggings
- Students need to wear denim colored jeans only
- Students shall not wear ripped or frayed clothing
- Students shall not wear high-heeled shoes, platforms, sandals without socks, or flip-flops
- Students shall not wear outdoor boots in the classroom during the school day
- Students not wearing jeans must wear their uniform; *this is not an out of uniform day*

Out-of-Uniform Day

- These are special occasions throughout the school year decided on by teachers and administration
- Students shall not wear ripped or frayed clothing
- All shorts, skirts, or dresses shall be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee
- Students shall not wear skinny jeans or jeggings
- Students shall not wear sleeveless, strapless, or spaghetti straps
- Students shall not wear sandals without backs or flip-flops; socks must always be worn
- Students shall not wear outdoor boots in the classroom during the school day

Physical Education

- All students must have a clean pair of clean athletic shoes for Physical Education class.
- *Requirements for middle school students to change for physical education was discontinued beginning with the 23-24 school year.*
 - *It will be optional for 8th grade students to change for PE. They need to wear a PE uniform:*
 - *Navy blue shorts or sweatpants*
 - *Plain white t-shirt or St. Francis t-shirt*

Updated 8.30.23

Other Criteria:

The following criteria apply to all clothing choices:

- Clothing must be clean and free from stains
- Clothing may not be torn or frayed
- All shirts must be long enough to cover midriff
- No portion of a student's undergarments may be visible
- Jewelry must be simple and modest; no hoops or long dangling earrings
- No makeup for K-4th grade students. 5th-8th grade students may wear modest makeup only. No extreme make-up, body piercing, hair colors or styles are permitted.
- Belts can be worn
- Shorts may be worn in September and May only and not on Mass days. *After 3 violations of wearing shorts to Mass, students will have the right to wear shorts revoked for the rest of the school year.*

Where Can Uniform Items be Purchased?

- Donald's: www.donaldsuniform.com
 - Search - St. Francis of the Lakes Catholic School
- Kohl's, JC Penney's, Target, Walmart, Old Navy, etc. all have uniform pieces available
 - Please be mindful of plain and true colors
- School has *Uniform Sale* every fall with used uniform pieces for \$1 each