

St. Matthew Catholic School

Uniform Policy

Each school shall establish standards of student dress, which will promote dignity, cleanliness, and good health. Students are expected to follow the dress code throughout the school day and during all school events, which include, but are not limited to, athletics, extracurricular and social activities. The dress code shall be published in the Parent/Student Handbook and enforced by the administration, faculty and staff.

The St. Matthew Catholic School uniform has been selected to provide a neat appearance as well as remain functional and affordable.

*Uniforms are not required for distance learning. Students should be dressed appropriately in regular clothes.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All students are required to wear the school uniform.

All uniform items must fit properly, be modest, and clean, without holes and neat (shirts tucked in and shoes tied) for the duration of the school day.

The administration reserves the right to assess a violation to any student not adhering to the policy.

Beginning in 4th grade students will receive demerits when they are not in uniform compliance.

UNIFORM VENDORS

School Yard (210) 734-2912

Academic Outfitters (210) 616-2014

- Items not sold at the uniform stores or at a school uniform resale (PTC – spirit items, Booster Club, CYO, etc.) are permitted only on Spirit Dress/Non-Uniform Days.
- Periodically, the PTC will offer a sale on gently worn uniform items.
- Other than school shoes, no alternate brands or styles for any of the uniform components are allowed.

PATCHES/EMBROIDERY

- School patches can be purchased at the school office or at the above uniform stores.
- Mass shirts: patches will be applied to the right sleeve and will be sewn by uniform store.
- Polo shirts, jackets, red sweaters: embroidery will be on the left front and will be sewn at the uniform store.
- 8th grade blue sweaters are not required to have the embroidery.

SOCKS

(Unless specified for Mass or a particular grade level)

- White socks

- Plain no logos or accents
- Must be above the ankle and visible to the observer
- Girls may also wear knee highs or tights
- No leggings

SHOES

(Unless specified for Mass or a particular grade level)

- All white **all leather** tennis shoes (no lights, color trim or contrasting soles)
- Velcro is an option for our elementary students. Velcro is required for prek, kinder and is preferred for first grade.

JACKETS/COATS/SWEATSHIRTS

- Approved embroidered sweaters are allowed inside the school building and at Mass. Students in PreK-7th grades can wear the red pullover or cardigan.
 - 8th grade blue sweaters do not have to be embroidered.
- Non St. Matthew jackets/coats may be worn during outdoor activities.
- No jackets/coats will be allowed in class or during Mass.
- Sweatshirts with hoodies and non-uniform sweatshirts are not allowed in the school building.
- 6th-8th Grades are allowed to wear letterman jackets except during Mass.

UNIFORM LENGTH

- Boys:
 - Pant hem will touch the shoes.
 - Short's hem will, at minimum, be below the student's fingertips.
- Girls:
 - When standing or kneeling, the hem of skirts, jumpers and walking shorts will, at minimum, be right above the knee.
 - Pant hem will touch the top of the shoe.

GROOMING

- Makeup: No make-up is allowed including but not limited to tinted face color, lip color, mascara, eyeliner or lash extensions.
- Nails: Only clear nail polish is allowed. Artificial nails are not permitted.
- Hair: Hair color must be a natural color with no frosting, tipping or highlighting. No fad haircuts or styles are allowed.
 - Girls:
 - Above the eyebrows, away from the face.
 - Hair accessories including barrettes, ribbons, hair bands, and ponytail holders must be of school colors: black, white, red, navy blue, dark green or gold and may be made from the school plaid.
 - Bows conforming to the above colors with the student's initials or St. Matthew logo/initials are permissible.
 - Hair bows should be no larger than 2 inches in height
 - Jeweled hair accessories are not allowed
 - Boys:
 - Above the eyebrows at least one-half inch.

- Tapered above and around the ears.
- Must be at least 1 inch above the collar.
- The sides and top should be no shorter than a #2 razor guard.
- Sideburns should not extend below the middle of the ear.
- Hair height will be at the discretion of the administrator.
- Middle School boys need to be clean-shaven.

TATTOOS

- Permanent and/or temporary tattoos are not permitted.
- Henna tattoos are not permitted.
- Writing on body with pens or markers is not allowed.

JEWELRY

- As a rule, valuables should not be worn.
- 1 wrist watch is allowed.
 - Fitbits or activity trackers are permitted.
 - Smart watches or similar devices are not permitted.
- 1 necklace is allowed.
 - A simple chain or thin leather cord (4 mm) with a Christian symbol or medal is allowed.
- Earrings are allowed.
 - Simple stud earrings or ½ inch loops for girls.
 - Only one earring per ear lobe.
 - No earrings for boys.
- Students may wear one religious symbol, NJHS pin, Student Council pin on his/her tie.
- Rings, bracelets and ankle bracelets are not permitted.

**Medical identification items may be worn and must be approved by the school nurse and/or administration.

PE UNIFORM

*****PE uniforms are still pending due to COVID-19 policies and procedures.*****

6th-8th Grades:

- All PE Uniforms must be purchased through the PE department.
- The approved PE Uniform includes:
 - St. Matthew PE t-shirt
 - Red shorts
 - White socks per policy
 - Any athletic tennis shoe

**All other grades will wear their school uniform for PE.

SPIRIT DRESS DAYS/NON-UNIFORM DAYS

- Students are occasionally granted a Spirit Dress/Non-Uniform Day.
- Official school uniforms are not required.
- Students may wear the school uniform.
- Clothing should uphold the dignity of our Catholic School environment, be clean, neat, safe and modest.
- PE classes may meet on non-uniform days and spirit dress is not an excuse for non-participation.
- Students may be asked to change if their clothing is deemed inappropriate.

- Spirit Dress attire:
 - Blue/black jeans (no holes or faux holes).
 - No jean leggings.
 - Uniform shorts/pants/skirts/skorts are allowed.
 - Non-uniform shorts/skirts/skorts are not allowed.
 - St. Matthew logo shirts or sweatshirts (PTC, Booster Club, St. Matthew CYO) are allowed.
 - Sweatshirts with hoods are not allowed.
 - Low cut, sleeveless, spaghetti strap/strapless tops are not allowed.
 - Other Catholic School clothing is not allowed.
 - Socks must be above the ankle and may have color.
 - Any athletic shoe, closed shoe, or boots are allowed.
 - No shoes with lights or wheels are allowed.
 - Open toed shoes, sandals and flip flops are not allowed.
 - Themed dress may be allowed on occasion and will be announced by administration.
 - Official scout uniforms or vests may be worn on scout meeting days but is not permitted on Mass days.
 - All grooming and jewelry policies remain in effect.

UNIFORM VIOLATIONS

- Parents or caregivers are primarily responsible for students wearing the proper uniform.
- At the administration's discretion, a student may be sent home for a uniform violation.
- Parents of K-3rd grade students will receive a notification from the teacher.
- 4th-8th Grade students will receive 1 demerit for each uniform infraction, each day they are out of compliance.
 - Demerits will accumulate throughout the year.
 - First 5 demerits = 1 Disciplinary Notice.
 - Every 5 demerits after the first 5 = 1 after-school detention.