

St. John's

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Exceptional Education Anchored by Faith

UNIFORM AND GROOMING HANDBOOK: 2016-2017

The school is committed to:

- ❖ Having a strong and clear Uniform and Grooming Code for students and parents
- ❖ Allowing for some individual choices and options, especially in the upper grades
- ❖ Requiring cost effective uniform items
- ❖ Fairly monitoring student compliance

General Requirements:

Our primary mission is to incorporate our values of faith, to encourage the pursuit of excellence and to prepare our students for lifetime responsibilities. Being dressed and groomed appropriately is just one way we can demonstrate our goals and mission.

We will:

- ❖ Encourage our students to take pride in their appearance and to come to school neat and clean every day.
- ❖ Expect students to be in approved uniform items only.
- ❖ Not routinely take time out of the day to monitor student compliance but will expect that students be compliant; however, we will periodically check for compliance especially at the beginning of the year.
- ❖ Expect our older students to be role models for the younger children as it relates to appropriate dress and grooming.
- ❖ We expect students to do uniform self-checks throughout the school day or when reminded by the teacher.
- ❖ Expect, when notified of compliance issues, that the student will address the concern as soon as possible and that it will not happen again. All children need reminders about tucking in shirttails but concerns such as wearing a non-uniform sweatshirt, pants, or P.E. uniform is expected to be addressed immediately by the student. A student will not be allowed to participate in P.E. class activities unless in the approved P.E. uniform items.

Uniform Information

Uniform Items required for Mass and other Special Events:

BOYS in all grades are required to wear navy blue uniform (Flynn and O'Hara) pants, a white collared shirt, dark (navy, black or brown) socks that fully cover the ankle and plain black or brown school shoes. Boys in grades 3 - 8 are required to wear a belt (plain navy, black or brown).

BOYS in grades 6-8 are required to wear a white button-down collared shirt with their choice of approved Flynn and O'Hara school ties.

GIRLS in grades PK - 5 are required to wear the uniform jumper (Flynn and O'Hara), a white collared shirt, navy blue knee socks or tights, and plain black or brown school shoes. They may also wear a navy blue cardigan to Mass and on Special days.

GIRLS in grades 6 - 8 are required to wear their choice of uniform skirt (Flynn and O'Hara), a white collared shirt, navy blue knee socks or tights, plain black or brown school shoes and the navy with white striped vest from Flynn and O'Hara.

Please NOTE: **Sneakers are not part of the classroom uniform, they are for P.E. only.**

Other Uniform Options: In the warmer months, all students have the option to wear the navy blue walking shorts, white collared or green polo shirt, and white fold-down crew socks that fully cover the ankle, and their black school shoes. No hooded sweatshirts are allowed. Boys have the option to wear their choice of gray uniform sweater (cardigan, vest, or pullover) as part of their uniform. Girls have the option of wearing navy blue pants and navy blue cardigan sweaters as part of their uniform. A hunter green polo shirt may also be worn with navy pants or walking shorts, except for Mass days, by boys and girls.

P.E. Uniform Requirements: The P.E. Uniform is required for all students in grades 4 - 8. In warm weather, this uniform is hunter green or navy blue shorts of an appropriate length (no shorter than 4 inches above the knee) and a solid gray t-shirt. In cold weather the P.E. Uniform may also include gray sweat pants and gray sweat shirts or hunter green warm-up suit.

Uniform Holidays: Periodically throughout the year, the school will have Uniform Holidays. The approved dress for these days will be announced in advance. Some Uniform Holidays will be for dress up and some will be for more casual dress, including jeans. Some of the special days will be free, while others are used to contribute to the general fund. Notification will be sent home prior to each Uniform Holiday.

Birthday Uniform Holiday: A once-a-year uniform holiday will be granted to every student in the school. Those students whose birthday does not fall on a regular school day will choose their day to take this holiday. Summer birthdays may be celebrated close to the student's ½ birthday. These will be dress up days and cannot be taken on a Mass day.

Approved Uniform Companies: St. John's Catholic School adopted a new uniform in the 2006 -2007 school year and chose Flynn & O'Hara as our uniform company. Uniforms can be purchased from Flynn & O'Hara by ordering at:

- Online at: www.fando.net
- By faxing your order to: 215-637-6392
- Toll free by phone at 800-441-4122
- By mailing your order to: 10905 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, PA 19154.

Uniform Compliance: Expected daily

Grooming Code:

Hair: Hair should be clean, neat, of their natural color and styled in a conventional manner. This means that hair should be out of the eyes for all students. Girls should have natural and well groomed/styled hair. Wearing scrunchies, barrettes, and headbands are expressions of individuality. Hair accessories should not be too big, too colorful or cause a distraction. Boys should have a natural and well-cut style which is above the collar, groomed around the ears, without adornments and cut to be short and above the eyes.

Make-Up: Make-up is not allowed at any grade level (i.e. nail polish, lip gloss, mascara, etc.).

Jewelry: The wearing of jewelry can help students express their individuality. We encourage our students to develop, within normal limits, an individual style. A ring, a watch, or a special necklace (religious or small and simple) can be worn by either girls or boys. No jewelry can be worn if it could be a safety concern or if the item gives an inappropriate message. The bracelet, necklace and ring could be dangerous to the student and to others during P.E. activities and therefore should be taken off if instructed to do so. Earrings can be very dangerous and therefore we only allow small post style earrings to be worn by our girls. In some circles, it is popular for girls to wear multiple earrings in each ear; we do not encourage this practice. However, because this is a personal choice made by parents for their children, we will allow 1-2 earrings in each ear if the additional piercing has already taken place.

Belts: Belts for both girls and boys are expected for students in grades 3-8. Pants should be worn at the waist and shirts tucked in completely. Belts should be plain, navy, black or brown and without adornment.

Shoes: All students will wear sturdy, plain, rubber-soled, solid black or brown shoes that fully enclose the foot. For safety reasons the heels must be flat, wide and low.

The administration reserves the right to determine if the hair and/or accessory is appropriate for the school setting. If deemed inappropriate the students will be expected to make the requested change.