

## SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY

*God created all equally.*

A school uniform silently teaches the lesson of equality while allowing individuality to shine through via actions, words, and personality. Clothing worn at school must be neat and in good repair with no holes, tears or ragged edges. Hairstyles for both boys and girls must be reasonable and in keeping with the standards of neat appearance. Hair must be combed neatly and kept clean. Hair length for boys will not extend over a uniform or dress shirt collar, cover the ears, or over the eyebrows. Outlandish or faddish hair styles or embellishments such as feathers or beads or varied lengths and colors will not be permitted. Hair color must be a natural hair color. Young men must be clean-shaven at all times and sideburns should be no longer than the middle of the ear.

In general, anything that is worn that draws undue attention to the student is not allowed. Students who repeatedly violate the uniform policy will be denied participation in the next out-of-uniform day and will serve a detention.

**LOWER CAMPUS:** Students are expected to comply with the applicable provisions of the dress code in all grades at the Lower Campus. No boots or shoes with lights are ever allowed, including Spirit Days. A tennis shoe (soles, laces, body of shoe) in black, white, or navy blue is required all days except Mass Days and Spirit Days.

We require the guidelines below throughout the school year, and we further require that additional fads in the form of hair, make-up (including nail polish, sculptured nails, tips, etc.), accessories, socks or shoes remain at home for use during personal time. It is the responsibility of the parents to see that their children are in uniform according to the school's requirements. Only the principal can excuse students from the uniform.

### **Regular Uniform:**

Emblems of any nature, except those of NDCS, are not permitted on clothing. Parents may purchase dress code items through other vendors of school uniforms if available.

### Lower Campus Boys Uniform Options include:

- *Pants:* Navy or khaki pants or shorts
- *Shirts:* White, navy, hunter green, or heather gray polo (no logos); White Oxford button-down shirt (long or short sleeved)

- *Outerwear:* Navy cardigan or pullover sweater, without a hood (may be worn at Mass); NDCS Spirit Wear (ordered from the school office; may not be worn at Mass)

Lower Campus Girls Uniform Options include:

- *Bottoms:* Navy or khaki pants or shorts; Navy or khaki skorts; Uniform Plaid Jumpers (skirts may be no shorter than 3” above the crease line at the back of the knees)
- *Tops:* White, navy, hunter green polo, or heather gray polo (no logos); White Peter Pan collared button-down blouse (long or short sleeved)
- *Outerwear:* Navy cardigan or pullover sweater, without a hood (may be worn at Mass); NDCS Spirit Wear (ordered from the school office; may not be worn at Mass)

No frayed, torn, or ragged clothing is acceptable, even if it is new. Shirts and blouses should be neat and free of wrinkles. Fashion Accessories should be in good taste and not detract from the uniform.

- Lower Campus students do not have time to change shoes for P.E. or recess. Therefore, the uniform athletic shoe is required for all days except for Mass days and remains acceptable on Mass days. Mass day dress shoes should be a sturdy leather (or leather look-alike) in black, brown, navy or tan. The traditional “saddle oxford” in navy and white is also acceptable.
- Boots (including western or winter boots), open back or sling-back shoes, sandals, or shoes with lights are NOT permitted even on Spirit Days.
- On days other than Mass days white, navy, grey, or black socks must be worn with shoes and must cover the ankle. Girls may also wear solid (not patterned) white, navy, grey, or black tights with skirts. In cold weather, white, navy, grey, or black leggings may be worn in lieu of tights. These must be the fitted type,

not flared, and must cover the ankle. Multi-colored socks are never appropriate.

- All pants or shorts with belt loops must be worn with a navy, brown, black or cordovan belt.
- No over-sized or baggy clothing is allowed. No cargo pants or low rider pants are permitted. Pants and shorts must be neatly hemmed with no frayed edges.
- Jewelry must be very plain, preferably of a religious nature. One set of earrings will be allowed only if they are the stud-type for pierced ears (no dangling or hoops).
- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings or studs of any kind.
- Headbands, barrettes, or bows may be worn to style hair. They must be conservative and non-distracting.
- Skorts or shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- If t-shirts are worn under the uniform blouse or shirt, they must be either solid white or solid gray. The sleeves of the t-shirt should not show under the uniform shirt.
- Coats and jackets may NOT be worn in the classroom (except ND Spirit Wear; please note that University of Notre Dame spirit wear is not an acceptable substitute for NDCS spirit wear).
- No caps or hats should be worn inside the building during school hours.

- No writing on one's body is permitted. No permanent or temporary tattoos are permitted. No hologram contact lenses are permitted.

**Mass Day Dress Code** - for liturgies and other announced special days:

Boys in Grades 3K-5 – white oxford (long or short sleeved), navy tie, navy pants with belt, white, navy, or black socks with leather (or leather look-alike) dress shoes or the dress code tennis shoe. Boys may wear adjustable or standard ties. Uniform shorts may be worn through October and after Spring Break but never for Mass.

Girls in Grades 3K-5 – Uniform plaid jumper with white Peter Pan collared button-down blouse (long or short sleeved), white or navy socks or stockings with leather (or leather look-alike) dress shoes or the dress code tennis shoe. The traditional “saddle oxford” dress shoe in navy and white is also an acceptable Mass Day shoe. Uniform shorts may be worn through October and after Spring Break but never for Mass. Solid colored shorts must be worn under uniform plaid jumpers.

**SPIRIT DAY DRESS CODE:** (Must be approved by the principal)

Blue jeans (or jean skort for girls) with a NDCS t-shirt or sweatshirt and the uniform tennis shoe or other athletic shoes are the acceptable Spirit Day attire. Jean shorts may be worn until the end of October and after Spring Break if they are neat, hemmed, and the length of uniform shorts. Substitutes for NDCS shirts will not be permitted. NDCS Spirit Wear may be purchased from the school office and on Orientation Day. Please note that University of Notre Dame spirit wear is not an acceptable substitute for NDCS spirit wear.

### **DRESS CODE FOR OTHER OUT-OF-UNIFORM ACTIVITIES**

How we dress when we are not in school uniform must still be tasteful and modest. We always want to be positive representatives of our school community. Students must follow the guidelines established for each activity.

Students should be neatly dressed with no holes or frayed edges on clothing, even if they are purchased that way. Students may wear sandals or boots, but flip flops of any kind are not permitted. Pajamas or nightwear, boxer shorts, thermal underwear, and slippers/house shoes are never appropriate. *Anything that draws undue attention to the student is not allowed.*