

DRESS CODE – Revised August 2017

Philosophy: The dress code reflects **the dignity proper to a student attending a Catholic school**. Proper school attire and good grooming are conducive to a student’s educational and social development. Whether on regular uniform days or on special dress days, students are expected to dress **modestly and appropriately in keeping with our Christian values**. **The school reserves the right to make the final determination of “modest” and “appropriate” attire.**

This dress code is required of all students, kindergarten through eighth grade. **It is the parents’ responsibility to see that their children adhere to the Dress Code Policy.** It is essential for the maintenance of order in school that parents only purchase accepted uniform clothing for their children to wear at school. Please see the following description to ensure that your purchases are in compliance with the dress code.

Shirts K-8	All shirts must be white or classic navy and consistent with the styles offered by SchoolBelles and must have the SJS crest. The crest is mandatory in grades 3-8 only. All shirts must be kept tucked into pants or skirts unless they have a waistband. Options: Short sleeve or long sleeve oxford, turtleneck or polo (with or without waistband). Girls K-3 may wear Peter Pan collar with jumper.
Slacks/Shorts K-8	Navy (K-8) or khaki (K-8) slacks or walking shorts which are consistent with the SJS styles offered by SchoolBelles. Shorts may not be worn November 1 – March 31. Shorts must be no more than 2 inches above the knee. No cargo pants/shorts or pants/shorts with external pockets.
Jumpers K-3	SJS plaid in drop waist or split bib styles. Grades K-3 only.
Skirts/Kilts/ Skorts/Culottes	SJS plaid or navy blue skirt, kilt, skort, or culottes for grades K-8. These must be no shorter than two inches above the knee for sanitary reasons and in the interest of modesty. PLEASE NOTE: No beige/khaki skirts/kilts/skorts/culottes.
Sweaters	All sweaters must be solid navy or white , consistent with the styles offered to SJS by SchoolBelles and must have the SJS crest. Options: vest, cardigan, crew, or V-neck.
Other Warm- Weather wear	Blue fleece pullover, vest, or jacket with SJS logo as sold by SchoolBelles ; sweatshirts with SJS crest and St. James athletic wear as approved by the principal.
*Socks	Solid colors only: white, black, navy blue, or khaki. Girls may also wear white or navy blue tights and navy blue or black ankle-length leggings. Socks must be worn at all times.
*Belts	Belts must be worn with slacks and shorts in grades 3-8. Belts for boys and girls are to be black, brown, or blue.
Hair	All: Hair must be clear of eyes. No unnatural hair colors. Boys: Hair must be neat and may brush the collar but not pass it. Tails, tracks, Mohawks, and spiked styles are not permitted. Head bands must be blue, white, or uniform plaid. St. James head bands are in the office for \$2.00. No scarves, flowered head bands, etc.

Make-Up	No noticeable make up or colored nail polish; no visible ink or markings on the skin, including temporary or permanent tattoos.
Jewelry	Stud earrings for girls only. No other visible piercings. Jewelry must not be excessive or distracting, as determined by the teachers or administration.
Shoes	Black, brown, grey, or navy blue dress shoes in solid colors only , 1" heel limit. Multi-colored shoes or sparkle shoes, etc. are not permitted. ALL BLACK athletic/tennis shoes may be worn for girls and boys. No colored soles, stripes on the sides, etc. All black means all black. No open-toe shoes, open-back shoes, or flip-flops, even on dress-down days. School shoes may not double as gym shoes. If boots are worn in inclement weather, students must bring dress shoes to change into at school. *Special Note: Be conscious of safety when purchasing shoes. The students walk up and down steps and run on the playground. Shoes need to be practical...not just current fashion trends.
Dress Down Days	No strapless, spaghetti strap, tank tops, or tight-fitting shirts permitted. Shorts/skirts must be no more than 2" above the knee. Jeans and cargo pants are permitted. Athletic shoes and boots are allowed. No strapless shoes, sandals, or crocs permitted. No leggings are permitted to be worn in any fashion.

It is the responsibility of the parents to see that students come to school appropriately dressed. Please take that responsibility seriously.

Please note that SchoolBelles will only sell you items that are included in the SJS dress code. Please see the St. James SchoolBelles catalog for description of items offered and further details. Uniform items may be purchased online at www.schoolbelles.com and enter our school code S2206 or shop at the **4721 McKnight Road, Pittsburgh location (no longer at Mt. Nebo Road)**. The phone # is 412-630-8480. Scrip cards for Schoolbelles are available at St. James rectory.

If a child is not in uniform, the student will receive a written warning that must be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to school. After the accumulation of three dress code infractions, the next infraction will result in a detention. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that your child/children come to school dressed accordingly to the school dress code.

Uniform Closet

Gently-worn uniforms are available in the Uniform Closet free of charge. Donations are welcome.

Gym Uniform

Gym shoes must be clean and free of debris with white or non-marking soles. Laced or Velcro closures are required, as slip-ons too easily slip, or fly, off. Students in grades 5-8 must bring gym shoes, knee-length athletic shorts (not jean shorts or spandex) and a t-shirt or sweatshirt for gym. No tank-tops allowed. Workout pants with elastic around the ankles are permitted.

August 2017