



## **ST NICHOLAS CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

### **DRESS CODE POLICY**

#### **BACKGROUND**

It is the policy of the London District Catholic School Board that individual elementary schools will establish a student dress code respecting appropriate dress for pupils. School administration will ensure that a consultation process is in place and that school policies and guidelines address the procedures established by the Board (Code J 3.2).

#### **AFFORDABILITY**

No student will be denied access to the school as a result of inability to afford appropriate clothing required by the dress code. The school will respond to families in need of financial assistance to comply with the chosen policy.

#### **DRESS CODE UPDATES / FUTURE REVIEW PROCESS**

- When a school chooses a uniform policy, this policy shall be in effect for a period of time no less than three years.
- Any differences, which may arise, from the development and implementation of this policy shall be resolved with a spirit of openness and cooperation from all parties with a view to improving the common good.

### **ST. NICHOLAS CATHOLIC SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY**

#### **DRESS CODE COMPLIANCE**

- St. Nicholas Catholic School has a school uniform which all students are required to adhere to. Please see Section 2 for details.
- Each month (specific dates will be communicated through newsletter, e-mail, etc.), there will be non-uniform days. Please see Section 1 for details.

Students are expected to follow the school dress code policy and students shall not wear any piece of clothing in such a way as to undermine its purpose. The following steps will be taken when a student does not comply with the mandatory wearing of the dress code:

- Reminder by the teacher
- Opportunity provided for child to change
- Written notice in the agenda book (or any other medium of communication) by the teacher
- Principal or designate talk to the student
- Teacher and/or principal calls the parent

## SECTION 1: DRESS CODE FOR NON-UNIFORM DAYS

### PURPOSE

Students are expected to dress in a manner appropriate for our Catholic schools, while still having the ability for self expression and individuality.

### OVERVIEW

Clothing should be neat, comfortable, and modest, not drawing undue attention to the wearer. Clothing should allow the student to participate safely in the full range of activities in a typical school day. In warm weather, clothing should protect the student from harmful ultraviolet radiation while in the colder weather, clothing should protect from the elements as students will be expected to be outside. Students should dress appropriately for their age. The dress code applies to all students, from Kindergarten to Grade 8.

### SPECIFIC ITEMS TO NOTE

- No hats are to be worn in the school
- Midriffs must be covered at all times
- No spaghetti straps, halter tops, or jersey shirts with large arm openings that allow the chest/stomach area to be visible (we follow the '3-finger rule')
- No mini-skirts or short-shorts. These items of clothing should be as long as, or longer than, a student's arm length, when arms are held straight down their side.
- No underclothes should be visible
- No articles of clothing with inappropriate logos, sayings or pictures
- All students must dress appropriately for the winter season and be prepared for outdoor recess
- All students must dress properly for physical education: shorts, gym shoes, T-shirt or sweat pants\* (sweat pants cannot be worn during gymnastics for safety purposes)
- For safety purposes, necklaces and/or neckwear may not be worn unless they are constructed of breakaway material
- Fitted pants (i.e., tights, jeggings, fitted yoga pants, tight pants) are permitted as long as the student has a top layer that extends over the pants and hangs past their fingertips when arms are held straight at their side
- No Flip Flops are permitted
- When students are on a field trip external to the school, they represent St. Nicholas and the LDCSB. All students must adhere to the school dress policy and/or to any special apparel requirements set forth by the teacher in charge while attending these trips.

## SECTION 2: SCHOOL UNIFORM

### **PURPOSE**

Using the principle of 'for the good of all', the purpose of the uniform is to answer our call to be different from the inside and not the outside, to focus on learning, to build community, to ensure safety and appropriate dress for school.

### **DEFINITIONS**

#### **COLOURS:**

- N-Navy
- W-White
- K-Khaki
- **All clothing must be solid colours (*no stripes or patterns*)**

**Note:** Colour combinations of clothing can be the same colour top and bottom, or opposite colour.

*Example:* Navy blue pants with navy blue shirt, or navy blue pants with white shirt

#### **SPIRIT WEAR:**

- St. Nicholas crested clothing that is available for sale only at St. Nicholas.

#### **CREST-FREE APPARELL:**

- **No crests, logos, emblems, pictures or writing will appear on any clothing worn indoors with the exception of approved spirit wear. Clothing worn outdoors can have logos, crests, etc. as long as they are appropriate for our Catholic school environment**

#### **SOURCING OF SCHOOL UNIFORM CLOTHING:**

- All school uniform items may be purchased through any vendor as long as the items comply with the below requirements.
- Personally made items (i.e., knitted sweaters, jumpers) are permitted as long as they comply with the dress code requirements

#### **SWAP SHOP:**

- A clothing exchange will be set up each Fall by St. Nicholas community to help facilitate your clothing needs.

#### **FIELD TRIPS**

- When students are on a field trip external to the school, they represent St. Nicholas and the LDCSB. All students must adhere to the uniform policy and/or to any special apparel requirements set forth by the Teacher in charge while attending these trips.

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS OR MODIFICATIONS**

- Modifications to the components of the school uniform will be deemed to comply with the school uniform policy where necessary to accommodate the needs of the students with specific (and documented) needs

**TOPS**

- Short sleeve or long-sleeved golf/button down collared shirt (N/W)
- Short, ¾ length or long-sleeved blouse (N/W)
- Long-sleeved turtle-neck or mock neck shirt (N/W)
- Sweater, sweatshirt, fleece, hoodie with zipper, button or flat front, vest worn over collared shirt (N/W)
- Spirit Wear sweaters and vests may be worn over collared shirts
- Undershirts can be blue or white

**Not Acceptable:** T-Shirts are not acceptable except for students in Kindergarten to Gr. 3.

**BOTTOMS**

- Solid colour flat front or pleated casual cotton pants, walking shorts, capri pants, cargo pants, cords (N/K)
- Skirt or skort (N/K)
- Tunic, jumper or dress (N/K)

**Notes:** Shorts, skorts, skirts and dress length should be below fingertips when arms are held straight at side. A skort is a skirt with a short liner underneath. A tunic or jumper is a sleeveless one-piece dress extending to the knees. An approved top (outlined above) must be worn underneath tunic or jumper garments. If the dress has a collar, an approved top is not necessary.

**Not Acceptable:** Fitted or excessively tight pants

**SOCKS / SHOES / HOISERY**

- Proper safe footwear is required. Sandals are permitted.
- Solid colour knee/ankle socks, tights, leggings or biking shorts under a skirt or dress is acceptable and encouraged (N/W).
- Socks worn with all other apparel is also strongly encouraged.
- No Flip Flops

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

- Top: Short or long-sleeved t-shirt or Spirit Wear t-shirt (N/W)
- Bottom: Athletic shorts or Spirit Wear shorts (N/W)
- Shoes: Running Shoes

**KINDERGATREN – GR. 3 OPTIONAL**

- Sweat (jogging) pants, comfortable cotton pant, warm-up athletic pants (N)
- Short or long-sleeved t-shirt (no logos) (N/W)

**JEWELLERY/SCARVES/HATS**

- For safety purposes, necklaces and/or neckwear may not be worn unless they are constructed of breakaway material
- No hats are to be worn in the school

**NON-UNIFORM DAY**

- Non-Uniform days will be designated at the beginning of the year
- Clothing must be compliant as outlined in Section 1

**EXAMPLES OF SCHOOL UNIFORM APPAREL**

**Polo/Golf Shirts (Short & Long Sleeve) – White & Navy**



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**Blouse & Dress Shirts (Short, ¾ Length, and Long Sleeve) – White & Navy**



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**Turtle Neck, Mock Neck (Long Sleeve) – White & Navy**



**Sweaters & Vests to be Worn Over Collared Shirts (Short & Long Sleeve, Button Up, V-Neck, Crew Neck, Zipper) – White & Navy**



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**Hoodies, Fleece Sweaters, Round Neck Sweatshirts to be Worn Over Collared Shirt (Long Sleeve) – White & Navy**



**Long Pants, Capris Pants, Cargo Pants, Cords - Khaki & Navy**



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**Shorts, Skorts & Pleated Skirts (Knee Length) – Khaki & Navy**



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**Pleated Jumpers, Knit Jumper, Dresses – Khaki & Navy**



**Kindergarten to Gr. 3 Optional – Sweat (Jogging) Pants, Warm-Up Athletic Pants, T-Shirts (Short or Long Sleeve, Round Neck or V-Neck) – White & Navy**

