

DRESS CODE OF SACRED HEART SCHOOL, BETHLEHEM

“Modesty protects the intimate center of the person. It means refusing to unveil what should remain hidden. It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with their dignity. Modesty protects the mystery of persons and their ability to love. It encourages patience and moderation...Modesty is decency. It inspires ones choice of clothing...”

(Excerpts taken from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2521-2522)

In the on-going effort to maintain and enhance an environment conducive to learning, to instill and strengthen the virtue of modesty, and to encourage a positive “life skill” of dressing appropriately, Sacred Heart School requires that all students abide by a code of acceptable dress. Ideally, it will be the primary responsibility of parents/guardians to ensure that students are in compliance of this dress code. As the student grows and matures, parents will have a shared responsibility with the student to ensure compliance.

The Faculty/Staff also have a role of monitoring students and ensuring that the dress code is being upheld. Ultimately, the Principal has the final determination in judging if a student is in compliance with the dress code. As a general rule, if particular clothing is in question as to its acceptability, students should refrain from wearing it.

Proper dress and appearance reflects good judgment, poise, maturity, and helps to provide a healthy and purposeful atmosphere for study. The dress code at Sacred Heart School allows students to focus their attention on intellectual and spiritual pursuits while at the same time works to maintain a sense of decorum and respect. At times, ever-changing clothing trends may be challenging to the precise nature of a dress code. For the dress code to be effective and positive, parental cooperation is crucial.

Sacred Heart School’s dress code began as an initiative of the 2009-2010 School Advisory Council, and continued with and received majority approval of the 2010-2011 School Advisory Council. The content of the dress code was developed after gaining input and consultation with the parent community of Sacred Heart School, the Sacred Heart School Faculty and Staff, and reviewing “best practices” with other Catholic schools.

The dress code is designed to have an appropriate amount of structure, without being burdensome in regard to adherence or finances. Its ultimate purpose, as are all our efforts at Sacred Heart School, is to allow our students to become the young men and women that God calls them to be. By doing so, our students of Sacred Heart School grow in holiness and are well on their way to become that which is the goal of every baptized Christian—Saints.

ACCEPTABLE DRESS FOR “REGULAR” SCHOOL DAYS (Monday – Thursday)

COLLARED SHIRTS; SHORT OR LONG SLEEVED (properly tucked in)

- Polo, Oxford or Blouses, in the solid colors of **maroon, white, gold/yellow or gray**
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** Exterior labels/logos with the exception of Sacred Heart Logo.

SWEATERS (worn over collared shirts described above)

- Crewneck, V-neck, Vest, or Cardigans in solid colors of **maroon, white, gold/yellow or gray**
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** Hooded sweaters/sweatshirts/“hoodies”

TURTLENECK/RIBBED-NECK SHIRTS/SWEATERS (worn underneath collared tops)

- Solid colors of **maroon, white, gold/yellow or gray**

PANTS/TROUSERS Pants, dress, cargo and corduroy

- Dress, Cargo or Corduroy in solid colors of **black, navy blue and khaki**
- Shorts/Capris that meet the above criteria can be worn from May 1st – September 30th
Shorts must not be shorter than 2” above the knees
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** Exterior decals, decorations, baggies, tight-fitting, frayed, torn or low rise

DRESSES, SKIRTS, SKORTS & JUMPERS

- Solid colors of **black, navy blue and khaki** no shorter than 2” above the knee

SOCKS/HOSIERY/TIGHTS (must be worn at ALL times)

- Must be plain/solid **navy blue, black, khaki, or white**
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** “Leggings” of any kind

SHOES (must be in good condition; and if laced – tied at all times; socks worn at all times)

- With the exception of Mass Days and unless otherwise noted, tennis shoes are permitted
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** No wheels/rollers, open toe, flip-flops, slippers

BELTS (Must be worn if pants/trousers have belt loops)

- Solid/plain **black, brown, khaki, or navy blue**

(Preschoolers and kindergartners are exempt from wearing belts due to restroom issues)

WEDNESDAYS & DAYS WHEN THERE IS THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS:

Students must wear “regular” (campus wear) school dress and dress shoes!

- **All:** Dress shoes must be worn; No open toe shoes or tennis shoes;
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** shorts or capris

FRIDAYS & OTHER DESIGNATED CASUAL DRESS DAYS

- Jeans without holes that are not torn, frayed, or patched
- T-shirts without offensive words or what can be construed as offensive
- Hoodies without holes, that are not torn, frayed, patched and free of offensive words/imagery or that which could be construed as such.
- **UNACCEPTABLE:** Camouflage pants or tops

FIELD TRIPS

- K-8 grade students will wear the maroon Sacred Heart Logo Polo top.
- Pre-k students will wear the maroon Sacred Heart Logo T-shirts
- Pants/Trousers as defined **unless** stated differently by teacher.

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES PERTAINING TO SCHOOL DRESS

HAIR

- Must be neat, clean and natural shade; highlights are acceptable as long as not garish
- Length of young men's hair must not reach the top of the collar and bangs must not fall below the top of the eyebrows.

MAKE-UP (not encouraged but acceptable)

- Must be modest; no glitter

EAR & BODY PIERCINGS; TATTOOS

- **Young Men:** Earrings are not permitted
- **Young Women:** Earrings permitted in the ear lobe; must be simple and unobtrusive
- **Body piercings** and/or **Tattoos** are not permitted