



Dress Code for Elementary and Secondary Students

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2024 11 12**

Administrative Procedures

1. Responsibilities

- 1.1 It shall be the responsibility of every principal, in consultation with the Catholic School Community Council, to review annually a dress code. (Education Act S 302, Board Policies and Guidelines Governing Conduct Ss (5) Governing Appropriate Dress).
- 1.2 The principal will communicate the dress code to the school community.
- 1.3 Parents are expected to support the dress code and to ensure that their children are dressed accordingly.
- 1.4 The principal will use their judgement in the implementation of this dress code.
- 1.5 The principal may allow a limited number of theme days or "special dress" days, which do not compromise those values held common in Catholic schools.

2. Expectations

- 2.1 Secondary school students are required to wear accepted and approved school uniforms in an appropriate manner.
- 2.2 Students are to be encouraged to be well-groomed and demonstrate a positive sense of self.
- 2.3 Students will not be permitted to wear clothing or accessories that do not reflect the values of showing respect for self or others.
- 2.4 Clothing that bears a negative message or image is inappropriate.

2.5 Clothing that is not age appropriate, culturally appropriate, promotes unhealthy behaviours and attitudes, such as smoking or drug and alcohol use, promiscuity, profanity or other undesirable values is not permitted.

3. Elementary School Uniforms

In the event that an elementary school community would like to uniform all students in the school, the following process would apply:

3.1 The principal, in consultation with the Catholic School Community Council, shall ensure that the discussion and process is transparent and consultative. This should be done in an open forum at one or more meetings that are planned well in advance, with due notice being given to the school community.

3.2 The final decision to uniform a school will rest with the principal, in consultation with Board administration, only after parents of the school are given the opportunity to vote for or against the proposal.

3.3 Needs of families must be considered in the process.

3.4 Uniforms purchased must be in compliance with Sec. B Policy – *Fair Labour Practices For Uniforms*.

3.5 To facilitate an economic use of uniforms for students in transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9, schools should consider adopting the colour scheme of their partner Catholic secondary school, fully or partially, to make continued use of uniform items possible.

4. Secondary School Alternative Education

4.1 The Principal of the Secondary School Alternative Education programs will determine if a traditional school uniform is appropriate for that site. If the decision is not to implement the uniform policy the expectations outlined in section 2.0 remain applicable.

5. Additional Information

5.1 The St. Clair Catholic District School Board is committed to the principles of equity and inclusive education, consistent with our Catholic teachings, which value and promote human rights and social justice in all Board policies, programs, guidelines, operations and practices.