

## STUDENT UNIFORM CODE

Our uniform policy was designed to maintain the concept of Christian dignity and personal self-esteem, while reinforcing the idea of a unified team concept. Parents need to help our students fully comply with this policy. Students are expected to report to school and to leave school in a complete uniform each day, beginning with the first day of school. Please note that preschool students are required to wear the St. Ferdinand gym shirt as their uniform.

In order to promote a spirit of neatness and equality, all students from kindergarten through 8th grade will wear uniforms. Students in pre-school will wear the school gym t-shirts or sweatshirts with any kind of pants on the bottom and gym shoes. Gym shoes must *not* have rollers or lights.

Each student has the obligation of wearing the mandatory school uniform. The rules will be strictly enforced. On rare occasions due to an emergency, if it is impossible for a student to be in full uniform, the student **MUST** bring a note from a parent/guardian as to the reason the student is unable to wear the **ENTIRE** uniform for the day. Students may receive a detention for continued disregard for the uniform code.

Students are to arrive and leave the premises in full uniform. The principal may make the exceptions to this policy. Uniforms are to be marked with some sign of personal identification. The school/teacher are not responsible for lost items. Staff members reserve the right to ask students to remove accessories that are deemed inappropriate for school.

In order to promote a neat, uniform appearance, pants, blouses and jumpers must be the ones purchased through the School Belles store. Sweaters and vests are also purchased through the School Belles store since they contain the school logo. **Uniform shoes are black closed-toe dress shoes.** *Gym shoes may **only** be worn on gym days with the gym uniform.*

During snow/wet weather, students are asked to wear boots and bring a change of shoes.

Expensive trinkets, items, jewelry or possessions should not be brought to school.

**NO** jewelry, rings or bracelets are allowed. Girls may wear earrings covering the earlobe, but dangling earrings are not allowed. Large earrings can be a safety issue. Multiple piercings are prohibited. Boys may not wear earrings.

Religious items on a chain may be worn, but must be tucked inside the shirt or blouse.

Tattoos and body piercings are prohibited.

Proper grooming is required by all students at all time. The principal and teachers have the right to judge when normal social and acceptable standards are not met.

Uniforms are required for gym, and must be purchased through the School Belles store. The gym uniform includes shorts, sweatpants, t-shirts and sweatshirts. Shorts may be worn in the warmer months, but the uniform sweatpants must be worn during cold weather. Since the students remain in their gym uniforms for the entire day, it is essential that they come to school in the correct gym uniform with the school logo.

Gym shoes must be solid color, and can only be solid white, black, navy, or dark grey. Shoes that have wheels and lights are not allowed, as these can be both dangerous and distracting.

### **Dress Code**

Uniforms can be ordered through Schoolbelles online, over the phone, or at the local Schoolbelles location. All uniform components, including sweaters, vests, pants and blouses/shirts come from Schoolbelles.

Harlem- Foster Shopping Center  
7254 West Foster Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60656  
847-375-1394

### **PRESCHOOL:**

St. Ferdinand School logoed gym shirt (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Pants/shorts of choice

Gym shoes

### **BOYS: Grades K-8\***

White long or short sleeve dress shirt (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Navy twill trousers and belt (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Navy sweater or vest with St. Ferdinand logo (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Navy tie with white stripes (Must be purchased through School Belles) for Boys in Grades 5-8

Black dress shoes

\* Boys grades 5-8 must wear a belt, optional for lower grades

**GIRLS: Grades K-4**

White or light blue blouse (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Pleated jumper or drop-waist jumper (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Navy sweater or vest with St. Ferdinand logo (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Black closed-toe dress shoes

**GIRLS: Grades 5-8**

White or light blue blouse (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Navy twill trousers and belt (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Navy Sweater or vest with St. Ferdinand logo (Must be purchased through School Belles)

Black closed-toe dress shoes

- ✦ Students in K-4 may wear polo shirts or dress shirts; students in 5-8 must wear button-down dress shirts.
- ✦ Makeup, nail polish, and artificial nails are prohibited.
- ✦ Uniform shoes must be closed-toe dress shoes and solid black. Grey, white, or navy tights or socks must be worn.
- ✦ All components of the uniform are purchased through the School Belles store (except shoes)

All grades and groups may wear navy dress walking shorts from the first day of school through September 30, and from May 1 to the end of the school year. Sweaters are not required during these dates.

On days above 80° from the first day of school through September 30, and from May 1 to the end of the school year, each student may bring a 16 oz. or smaller water bottle with a protective top. This bottle may be refilled with water during the day for grades PreK to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Middle school switches classrooms and have an opportunity to visit the drinking fountain during passing periods (approximately every 40 minutes).

**Jewelry**

When the students are in uniform, watches, rings, and tasteful religious jewelry may be worn. Girls may also wear small earrings that rest at the earlobe.

**Make-Up, Nails, Tattoos, Contact Lens**

Makeup, nail polish, and artificial nails are not allowed. Tattoos (including henna) are not allowed. Contact lenses that are designed to change the appearance of the eyes unnaturally, such as those producing an “enlarged pupil” or “cat’s eye” look are strictly prohibited.

## **Student Hair**

### **Boys Hair:**

Hair must be neat, clean and well-groomed. Hair should be off the face and not cover the forehead or ears. Severe, bizarre, and extreme styles/colors are not allowed. Hair may extend only to the top of the collar, and the sides, back, and top need to be the same length (ie., no punk, faux-hawk, Mohawk, etc.) Hair in general should not be longer than 2 inches. Excessive sideburns are not acceptable (nothing lower than earlobe). There should be no more than 1 part in the hair. When a student is told to get a haircut, if it does not meet the requirements stated previously, the student will be sent home. Final approval will be at the principal's discretion.

### **Girls Hair:**

Hair must be neat, clean and well-groomed. Severe, exotic, bizarre and extreme styles and colors are not acceptable. Natural colors are the only colors that girls should have. Absolutely no colors outside of blonde, black, brown, natural red, or auburn are allowed. Hair is not permitted to be multi-colored. When a student is told to change her hair, if it does not meet the requirements stated previously, the student will be sent home. Final approval will be at the principal's discretion.

## **Shoes**

With safety, comfort, and consistency in mind, closed toe black dress shoes are appropriate for all our students and complete the uniform. Black dress shoes are required to be worn with the uniform. Gym shoes are to be worn on days that the student has gym, with the gym uniform. Sandals, boots, heels, etc. should not be worn. The student is out of uniform if they are wearing any other type of shoe, and will receive an out of uniform notice.

## **Physical Education (Gym) Class Uniform**

All students are required to wear gym uniforms to participate in PE. Plain white, black, grey or navy gym shoes are required. Please make sure that the shoes do not light up, and shoes must not have wheels. For safety and loss prevention, jewelry should not be worn on assigned gym days.

Gym uniform T-shirts and shorts may be worn from the start of school to November 1 and from March 1 to the end of school. The complete gym sweat suit may be worn during the other months.

On gym days, students are to come to school wearing their gym uniforms instead of their regular school uniform.

## **Out of Uniform Days (including dances and extracurricular events)**

On designated dress-down days, students may choose to wear casual clothing or remain in uniform. Those who dress casually must usually pay \$1.00 for the privilege; money collected on dress-down days helps fund various school endeavors, such as our technology program or a special events.

A Catholic approach to clothing recognizes that the body, created good by God, must be cared for and respected, even if doing so means rejecting popular fashion. It also respects those around us by recognizing the effect that various clothing can have on the minds and hearts of those who see us. Most importantly, it honors God's expectations of modesty. The way that one dresses reflects one's attitude toward this basic reality. Any non-uniform clothing worn on dress-down days must be clean, neat, and appropriate.

All students must dress modestly and conservatively during dress down days. Girls may not wear low cut tops (collarbone showing is not allowed) or excessively tight-fitting pants. If wearing tighter fitting pants or leggings, girls (all grades: preschool to eighth-grade) must have their bottoms covered by their looser fitting top.

### **Students must NOT wear (at any time):**

- Torn or ripped clothing.
- Shirts that do not reach down to and cover the midsection, both standing and bending.
- Any tight-fitting clothing — this extends to pants as well as shirts.
- Excessively tight jeans, pants, or leggings without having a top/shirt that completely covers the bottom.
- Low-cut/thin-strap tops worn by themselves and not underneath another garment that covers them.

***Any shirt/blouse/top that would be considered "open" or revealing and worn by itself, is absolutely inappropriate and not allowed under any circumstances.***

- Very short skirts (skirts worn must be at least knee length).
- Very short shorts (shorts worn must be at least knee length).
- Shoes without a secure back (flip flops, etc.), or with high/stiletto-type heels.
- Any drawings, tattoos, or other markings visible on the skin.
- Bracelets or other accessories deemed inappropriate.
- Hair color which is unnatural or any distracting haircut or hair style.
- Low cut tops, sweaters, or dresses that expose collarbone.
- Shorts/sweats with writing across the back
- Excessively "baggy" shorts/pants
- Any shirt promoting violence or violent or illegal activities
- Clothing with inappropriate language/graphics

No student will wear clothing with inappropriate language or graphics. Students will be asked to phone home to have a change of clothing brought to school before being permitted in the classroom. The privilege of participation for future “dress down days” may be withdrawn for students who refuse compliance with this policy.

The Principal/teacher may, at their discretion, require a student to obtain different clothing from home (if possible) or provide school issued clothes when the student’s apparel does not meet the school’s standards.

NOTE: Because of the constant changing nature of fashion, the school reserves the right to classify any style of dress as inappropriate.

### **Change of Clothes Policy**

For students in Grades PS, K, 1 and 2, it is **highly recommended** that at least one extra set of clothes be kept in his/her backpack in case of spilled food or personal hygiene/bathroom incidents. Be sure to change out the clothes as the weather changes.

In the following instances, parents will be called to bring their child clean or proper clothes:

- If a child has violated the school dress code or is not in the proper full uniform
- If a child has had an accident

**In extreme cases, a child will be sent home after an accident to be cleaned properly for sanitary reasons.**