

## **Dress Code and Personal Appearance (From Student/Parent Handbook)**

The school uniform helps to identify students as members of the St. Thomas Aquinas School community. The school uniform code is designed to ensure consistency. These standards are based on the values of neatness, cleanliness, and modesty.

The intent of the dress code is to keep the students' appearance simple, modest, and free from distraction and competitiveness. The following guidelines are for students:

- Shirts and blouses must be tucked in at all times.
- Make-up and tinted nail polish are not allowed. Nails may not be artificial, or longer than the tip of the finger.
- Tattoos and body piercing are not permitted.
- Large bows and hair ornaments are not permitted. Small bows, clips, or ribbons in uniform colors only may be worn. No laces, beads, trim or decorations of any kind.
- Hats may not be worn in the school during school hours.
- Any fad clothing, i.e., roller blade shoes, too large or extra wide pants, etc., are not permitted.
- Necklaces, bracelets, charms or other bangles are not to be worn to school. A simple ring, cross or religious medal on a thin, simple, metal chain can be worn. Valuable jewelry or watches should not be worn to school.
- Earrings should be simple. One pair of studded earrings may be worn at a time.
- Boys may not wear earrings. • Students may not write on hands, legs, arms, clothing, shoes, etc.
- Belt lengths (after buckling) may not exceed 3 inches.
- Hair should be kept clean, neatly groomed and out of the eyes. Hair must be the natural hair color. Hairstyles should be traditional. Boys' hair should be above the collar, ears, and eyes and without sideburns, tails, or sculpturing. Dyed hair, highlights, etc. are not permitted.
- Waistlines on clothes must meet the student's waist.
- Jumpers should touch the floor when the student kneels.
- Shorts should not be shorter than 2" above the knee.
- Sweaters, jackets, sweatshirts may not be tied around the waist or worn tied over the shoulders, except at lunch and recess.

### **Dress Code Violations**

Teachers will notify parents about dress code violations. The administration may call the parents to bring a change of clothing when the administration feels a student is dressed inappropriately, either on a uniform day or a free dress day.

### **Free Dress Days**

Free Dress days will be announced in the school newsletter or by e-mail. Special event days may require specific dress not indicated below.

On free dress days, students may not wear:

- sloppy or torn clothing • hats inside the school building
- jewelry that does not conform to the uniform rules
- immodest or inappropriate clothing • t-shirts related to drug culture, music groups, alcohol, drugs, obscene or offensive language or pictures
- shirts that do not cover the midriff when arms are raised
- halter tops or spaghetti straps
- shirts longer than shorts or skirts
- shorts and skirts shorter than 2" above the knee
- Spandex or Lycra.
- flip-flops or shoes with heels higher than 1"
- any St. Thomas athletic uniforms/shorts without specific permission from administration
- other dress deemed inappropriate/offensive by the administration

Scout Uniforms Scout uniform shorts must be the length of the school uniform shorts.