SMCHS DRESS CODE 2025-2026

General Dress Code Information

The Dress Code is designed to assist students in making decisions about appropriate dress. Students are to appear neat, clean, and well-groomed at all times while on campus and any time the student is wearing their uniform regardless of the time of day. Clothing must be in good repair and appropriate to the occasion. Undergarments must be worn and should not show under clothing. It must be understood that when individuals do not comply with the Dress Code, faculty and staff members have, not only the right, but also the obligation to issue Dress Code Detentions and/or refer the student to the Dean's Office.

Uniform pants, shorts, shirts, and skorts are to be the SMCHS brand for all grades. SMCHS brand uniforms are the only approved uniforms allowed at SMCHS.

In all instances, the school reserves the right to regulate against unbecoming fads or fashions that reflect negatively on the school and/or person.

It is the right and responsibility of the faculty to enforce the dress code.

Any clothing, styles, and/or accessories that are, in the opinion of the administration, deans, and/or faculty, gang-related (or possibly gang-related) or inappropriate for a Catholic school community are not permitted on the Santa Margarita campus or at any Santa Margarita event or activity.

Boy's Dress Code Regulations (SMCHS Brand Uniform Only)

Pants and Shorts

Pants and shorts may not be oversized, baggy, torn, rolled, or unhemmed. Pants must be worn at the natural waist. Acceptable pants color: Khaki. Acceptable shorts colors: Navy, Khaki.

Shirts (Polo or Oxford)

Shirts may not be oversized, baggy, or torn. T-shirts may not be worn over the shirt. Acceptable colors: White, Royal, Grey, Navy. Pink polos may only be worn during the month of October for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Sweaters

Sweaters may not be oversized, baggy, or torn. A uniform shirt must be worn under the sweater at all times. Acceptable colors: Solid Blue or White.

Undershirts

Only plain solid white blue, grey, black, or khaki long or short-sleeved tee shirts or white SMCHS brand uniform mock turtlenecks may be worn under the uniform shirt. The undershirt must be tucked in. Thermal or sleeveless under shirts in any color are not permitted.

Jackets

Only solid color jackets may be worn. Under no circumstances may a jacket or coat contain advertising slogans, company names, pictures or professional or college team names or logos. Denim (or jean) jackets are not allowed. Black leather jackets or coats are not allowed. Trench coats may not be worn. Acceptable colors: Blue, Black, Brown, White.

Sweatshirts

Sweatshirts may not be oversized, baggy, or torn. Sweatshirts purchased at the campus store or solid color royal blue, navy, black, khaki, white or grey sweatshirts without lettering or a logo may be worn (appropriate Nike apparel logos are permitted). The School determines what is appropriate. A uniform shirt must be worn under the sweatshirt at all times.

- Sweatshirts with a Santa Margarita logo may be worn. These are available for purchase in the campus store.
- Hoods may not be worn inside buildings.

College Sweatshirts

Seniors may be afforded the privilege of wearing a sweatshirt with a college name, logo, and/or mascot name only. For example, "USD TOREROS" is acceptable whereas "Property of USD Athletic Dept." is not acceptable. College sweaters and/or jackets are not acceptable.

Sweatpants
Sweatpants, joggers, jogger pants and warm up suits are never allowed even on non-uniform dress days.

Athletic Team and Activity Dress
Students currently participating in a sport or campus approved organization may wear an approved sweater, sweatshirt, collared shirt (or game day jersey). All shirts must have a collar. All athletic and activity clothing must be in school colors and must be approved by the Dean's Office. Sweat pants are never worn during the school day. Students wearing bathing suits must cover themselves (with at least a pair of shorts and a shirt) if they leave the aquatics center.

Mass/Special Event Dress
Throughout the school year there are a number of times when it is appropriate for students to present a dress that is more formal. The Boy's Mass/Special Event uniform is listed below.

- Uniform khaki pants
- Uniform long or short sleeve white oxford shirt
- Uniform royal blue sweater vest (sweatshirts may not be worn over the sweater vest)
- Uniform tie
- Shoes/Socks (according to current school policy)

Socks
Solid, school uniform color socks must always be worn and must always be visible. Acceptable Sock Colors: Blue, Black, White, Khaki, and Brown (Turquoise and Aqua are not considered Blue).

Shoes

- All shoes must be closed at the heel and toe.
- All shoes must have a hard leather or hard rubber protective sole.
- Shoes must be in good condition. No tears or holes.
- Shoes made for laces must have laces. Laces must be tied.
- Writing and/or drawings on shoes is not permitted.
- Solid color rain boots are allowed on rainy days.
- Shoes must be worn at all times when on campus for any school event or activity.
- The following shoes are not allowed: boots of any type, Uggs style footwear, Croc type clogs, Birkenstocks, sandals, flip flops, huaraches, combat or construction shoes, slippers, sliders, moccasins, dance and/or performing arts shoes.
- Acceptable Colors: Blue, Black, White, Khaki, and Brown (Turquoise and Aqua are not considered Blue).
- Multiple colored shoes can only be in the above listed shoe colors.
- Socks must be worn with shoes and must be visible.

Hats/Headbands
Hats or headbands of any kind (including SMCHS baseball caps) are not permitted. Hoods may not be worn inside buildings.

Hair
Hair must be styled with a neat presentation and not distracting. No extreme fashions: i.e. extremely spiked hair, comb overs, dyed, steps, lines, mohawks. Spiked hair that stands out from the head more than 2 inches is not allowed. Step haircuts and bald shaved heads are not permitted. If hair is longer than the collar, it must be pulled back. Shaved lines or designs are never permitted in hair. Hair must be the student's natural color. Dyed hair, including bleached hair, is not allowed.

Grooming
All male students must be free of facial hair and clean-shaven at all times. Side burns may not extend beyond the bottom of the ear. Students may be asked to shave while at school. Shaved eyebrows (including "eyebrow slits" and "eyebrow cuts") are not allowed.

Accessories
No excessive jewelry. No chains, laser pointers, or wallets on chains. Belts of excessive length or an inappropriate style and large belt buckles may not be worn. No military style belts and/or belt buckles are permitted. Small stud earrings may be worn. Earring plugs, hoops or other body piercings (nose, tongue, etc.) are not permitted. Tattoos must be appropriate for a Catholic educational environment and may not be distracting or distasteful. The School reserves the right to determine what is appropriate. Facial tattoos are not allowed.

Backpacks/Bags
Backpacks should be clean and in good repair. The Deans may confiscate any items inappropriately marked and consequences will be assigned.

Attention students and parents: Articles of clothing not listed or specifically mentioned are not permitted. Confiscated items of any kind may not be returned.

Girl's Dress Code Regulations (SMCHS Brand Uniform Only)

Skort
Skorts are to be no more than four inches from the top of the knee. Skorts may not be excessively short, tight, torn, or rolled at the waist. Acceptable colors/pattern: Plaid.

Pants and Shorts
Pants and/or shorts may not be excessively tight or short, or oversized, baggy, torn, or unhemmed. Pants and shorts must be worn at the natural waist. Shorts may not be rolled or hemmed to an inappropriate length (modesty first) and inseams must be at least six inches. No cuts or slits on inseam. Acceptable colors: Navy, Khaki.

Shirts (Polo or Oxford)
Shirts/blouses may not be oversized, baggy, or torn. Shirts must be worn buttoned so undergarments are not visible. T-shirts may not be worn over the shirt. Acceptable colors: White, Royal, Grey, Navy. Pink polos may only be worn during the month of October for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Sweaters
Sweaters may not be oversized, baggy, or torn. A uniform shirt must be worn under the sweater at all times. Acceptable colors: Solid Blue or White.

Undershirts
Only plain solid white, blue, grey, black, or khaki long or short-sleeved undershirts or white SMCHS brand uniform mock turtlenecks may be worn under the uniform shirt. Undershirts must be tucked in. Thermal or sleeveless under shirts are not permitted.

Jackets
Only solid color jackets may be worn. Under no circumstances may a jacket or coat contain advertising slogans, company names, pictures or professional or college team names or logos. Denim (or jean) jackets are not allowed. Black leather jackets or coats are not allowed. Trench coats may not be worn. Acceptable colors: Blue, Black, Brown, White.

Sweatshirts
Sweatshirts may not be oversized, baggy, or torn. Sweatshirts may not be longer than the shorts/skorts. Sweatshirts purchased at the campus store or solid color royal blue, navy, black, khaki, white or grey sweatshirts without lettering or a logo may be worn (appropriate Nike apparel logos are permitted). The School determines what is appropriate. A uniform shirt must be worn under the sweatshirt at all times.

- Sweatshirts with a Santa Margarita logo may be worn. These are available for purchase in the campus store.
- Hoods may not be worn inside buildings.

College Sweatshirts
See Boy's College Sweatshirt Policy.

Sweatpants
Sweatpants, joggers, jogger pants and warm up suits are never allowed even on non-uniform dress days.

Athletic Team and Activity Dress
Students currently participating in a sport or campus approved organization may wear an approved sweater, sweatshirt, collared shirt (or game-day jersey). All shirts must have a collar. All athletic and activity clothing must be in school colors and must be approved by the Dean's Office. Sweat pants are never worn during the school day. Students wearing bathing suits must cover themselves (with at least a pair of shorts and a shirt) if they leave the aquatics center.

Mass/Special Event Dress
Throughout the school year there are a number of times when it is appropriate for students to present a dress that is more formal. The Girl's Mass/Special Event uniform is listed below.

- Uniform khaki pants or skort
- Uniform long or short sleeve white oxford shirt
- Uniform navy blue sweater vest (sweatshirts may not be worn over the sweater vest)
- White or navy blue knee socks or tights
- Shoes (according to current school policy)

Socks
Solid school uniform color socks must be worn and must be visible. Acceptable Colors: Blue, Black, White, Khaki, and Brown (Turquoise and Aqua are not considered Blue). Rules for tights and leggings are listed below. Not permitted at any time are: sweats, joggers, jogger pants, thermal underwear, thigh highs, nylons, patterned stockings, and/or fishnet stockings.

Wearing Tights/Leggings Under Skorts/Shorts
Solid color tights or leggings (navy, black, white) may be worn under the skort or shorts. Not permitted at any time are: sweats, joggers, jogger pants, thermal underwear, thigh highs, nylons, patterned stockings, and/or fishnet stockings.

Shoes

- All shoes must be closed at the heel and toe.
- All shoes must have a hard leather or hard rubber protective sole.
- Shoes must be in good condition. No tears or holes.
- Shoes made for laces must have laces. Laces must be tied.
- Writing and/or drawings on shoes is not permitted.
- Solid color rain boots are allowed on rainy days.
- Shoes must be worn at all times when on campus for any school event or activity.
- The following shoes are not allowed: boots of any type, Uggs style footwear, Croc type clogs, Birkenstocks, platforms, sandals, flip flops, huaraches, combat or construction shoes, slippers, sliders, moccasins, dance and/or performing arts shoes.
- Heels may be no higher than 1½".
- Acceptable Colors: Blue, Black, White, Khaki, and Brown (Turquoise and Aqua are not considered Blue).
- Multiple colored shoes can only be in the above listed shoe colors.
- Socks must be worn with shoes and must be visible.

Hats
Hats of any kind are not permitted. Hoods may not be worn inside buildings.

Hair
Unbecoming, bizarre, or distracting hairstyles and/or colors are considered to be inappropriate and therefore will not be permitted. It is expected that hair will be kept neat and clean at all times. Shaved eyebrows (including "eyebrow slits" and "eyebrow cuts") are not allowed.

Make-Up
Make-up, if worn, must be in good taste. Excessive make-up or extreme colors are not permitted.

Accessories
No excessive, unbecoming, bizarre, distracting, or oversized jewelry may be worn. Two pairs of matching earrings are permitted. Body piercing (nose, belly-button, tongue, etc.) is considered inappropriate and is not permitted. Nail length and nail art cannot be extreme. Tattoos must be appropriate for a Catholic educational environment and may not be distracting or distasteful. The School reserves the right to determine what is appropriate. Facial tattoos are not allowed. Scarves purchased through the campus store are permitted.

Backpacks/Bags
Backpacks should be clean and in good repair. The Deans may confiscate any items inappropriately marked and consequences will be assigned.

Attention students and parents: Articles of clothing not listed or specifically mentioned are not permitted. Confiscated items of any kind may not be returned.