

# UNIFORM DRESS CODE

St. Vincent Catholic School, Grades K-6

*St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School in Salem is dedicated to providing a prayerful, respectful and disciplined environment, where students feel safe, loved and equal to peers. The uniform dress code was designed to foster school pride, to create a non-competitive dress environment, and to ensure student safety. Presenting a neat and clean appearance shows respect for each other and for one's self. It is the responsibility of the parents or guardian to ensure that a complete, clean, crisp uniform is worn when the student arrives at school. K-6 students are to wear uniforms daily unless otherwise announced. Parents are encouraged to use the free uniform exchange program, which is operated by the Parent's Club. Please check with the office for details. This dress code does not apply to current preschool students or any future 7<sup>th</sup> and/or 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.*

*The Principal will make the final decision on all matters of uniform and dress code should any questions arise.*

**Revised Dress Code Approved by School Advisory Council, November 30, 2005**

## **School Uniforms in General**

All clothing should be of traditional fit. Oversized clothes may not be worn. Pants, skirts, shorts and skorts must fit at the waist (long pants or skirts not to sag or drag on the ground), be clean and in good repair. Clothing for school should be washable, warm and durable enough for outdoor play, easy for the student to put on, and marked with a name. Parents and students share the responsibility for proper dress and grooming. Students dressed in attire deemed inappropriate by the administration will receive instruction to correct and may be given clothes from the uniform exchange to wear for the remainder of the day. If the situation continues unresolved, parents will be notified and the student may lose the privilege of participating in "free dress pass" or other dress code waiver opportunities.

***"If you are not sure it's right, don't buy it or wear it."***

### **1. Young Ladies**

#### **a) Tops:**

Student should always wear a collared, tucked in top. Tops must fit well enough to be tucked in easily, with the top tucked in sufficiently so that the entire pant/skirt waistband is visible. Tops are to be solid in color and match the colors of the Campbell plaid – white, navy blue, hunter green or light yellow. The only logo acceptable is that of St. Vincent de Paul School and/or Parish on tops provided by the school.

The following specifics also apply.

Permissible:

Elbow length or long sleeved collared knit polo shirts or simple plain collared blouses with no frills or noticeable large trim

Turtleneck or mock turtleneck

Plain uniform color (white, navy blue, hunter green or light yellow) sweatshirts in good repair (may be hooded) if worn over top of uniform. They may not be significantly oversized, be faded or torn.

Plain uniform color or white cardigan or crewneck sweaters or vests, either knit or fleece (may be hooded) if worn over top of uniform

St. Vincent de Paul T-shirts or sweatshirts that have been designed and distributed by the school

Not Allowed:

No self-made designs or logos, even if they reference the school name or mascot.

No corduroy or denim material on any uniform garment

Beginning the first school day after January 1<sup>st</sup> of their graduating year, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students may be allowed to wear official Blanchet Catholic School tops (approved styles only) or hooded sweatshirts during class times (never during Mass). This is a dress code exception that is an honor for our graduating students and may be denied any individual that does not meet St. Vincent Catholic School expectations for sustained excellent student conduct and dress code compliance.

**b) Bottoms:**

Permissible:

Navy blue straight-leg twill slacks, or skirts. Ankle length skirts are permissible however, may not be worn on PE or sport days.

Navy blue walking shorts or skorts, no more than 2" above the knee (before November 1<sup>st</sup> and after Spring Break only)

Campbell plaid jumpers, skirts, or shorts

Shorts should be worn underneath jumpers and skirts at all times, even when wearing tights or leggings.

Not allowed:

Cargo pants, athletic pants, corduroy, blue jeans, low riders, hip huggers, flood pants, stretch type tight pants, etc. No slacks shall have noticeable contrasting stitching, rivets or accents. All pants, skirts, skorts and shorts must be worn at the waist. No sagging or bagging is permitted. Long pants or long skirts should not gather significantly at the bottom nor fit so as to drag on the ground.

**c) Shoes:**

Permissible: Soft-soled, close-toed and closed heeled shoes must be worn. No slick soled shoes are permitted. The flat soft-soled leather style with the strap over the top is recommended, but not required. Soft-soled leather well-fitting loafers may also be worn. Leather, suede or canvas solid-colored tennis shoes are permissible. The only approved uniform shoe colors are primarily white, black, dark navy blue, dark grey or dark brown. Shoes must be reasonably clean and/or polished.

Not allowed: Plaid/patterned, brightly colored, highly decorated or high-top shoes are not permitted. Cowboy boots, sandals, knee high boots, clogs, moccasins, hiking boots, slipper-type or sling-back shoes are not permitted. Shoes may not have a heel higher than 1”.

Previously, each child was required to have tennis shoes for PE, which would remain at school. The policy is now changed so that only shoes suitable for gym wear (soft-soled) may be worn to school. Hard, slick leather soles are too slippery to wear in the gym for PE classes and for indoor recess. Likewise, shoes with any heel taller than 1” is not safe for running and playing in the gym so will not be permitted as a part of the school uniform. Though the idea of having a second pair of clean tennis shoes at school was a good one, so often we found the shoes were outgrown or misplaced by mid-year. Also, changing shoes before and after each PE class was very time consuming, particularly for the younger students. We have developed other methods of preventative care for our gym floor.

**d) Jewelry:**

A pair of small stud earrings (pierced ok), watch or bracelet, and rings are allowed – only one of each category per student. A plain gold or silver necklace (with or without a small religious medal) may be worn, as long as it does not present a hazard during student PE and recess times. No ankle bracelets, please.

**e) Grooming:**

No makeup may be worn. Only clear nail polish on natural nails is acceptable. Students’ hair (no dyed colors, streaked, or bleached tips) should be neat and clean. Girl’s hair shall be worn to not touch the eyebrows. Headbands and hair accessories are encouraged to maintain a well-groomed appearance, but should be kept simple.

**f) Other Guidelines:**

Belts are not mandatory, but if worn should be solid dark green, dark blue, black or dark brown. If a student consistently has sagging pants, then a belt or suspenders may be required by the school.

Socks are to be of solid-uniform color or white (no stripes or large logos) and must cover the ankles.

Students are not permitted to wear shorts, long pants or skorts as a part of school uniform during Mass.

Students can bring non-uniform color coats, sweatshirts or hats to wear to and from school as well as during recess. However these garments will not be allowed to worn during class time, or during Mass. If a student feels chilly in the class or church, then an approved uniform sweatshirt or sweater may be worn. No clothing or shoes made of shiny or wet-appearing material is an approved part of the school uniform. No visible colored shirts or colored undergarment under tops. No hats, neck scarves or bandannas in class. A long sleeved shirt worn under a short-sleeved shirt is not permissible.

Solid colored tights or leggings (in school uniform colors) may be worn under skirts, skorts and jumpers. If leggings are worn, socks must be worn in the same solid color as leggings. Long pants, however, are not allowed under skirts, skorts and jumpers.

There may be no logos or printing on any non-uniform garment that might be considered suggestive, violent, or otherwise inappropriate. These garments will not be allowed to be worn during class time or during Mass. No visible colored T-shirts or tube tops under tops. No neck scarves or bandannas in class.

A long sleeved shirt worn under a short-sleeved shirt is not permissible.

### ***Important!***

Shorts, skorts and long pants are not acceptable parts of the school uniform for Mass for girls. Absolutely no visible tattoo type markings, piercing, stickers, paintings or writings anywhere on skin are allowed.

## **2. Gentlemen**

### **a) Tops:**

Student should always wear a collared, tucked in top. Tops must fit well enough to be tucked in easily, with the top tucked in sufficiently that so that the entire pant/skirt waistband is visible. Tops are to be solid in color and match the colors of the Campbell plaid – white, navy blue, hunter green or light yellow. The only logo acceptable is that of St. Vincent de Paul School and Parish.

The following specifics also apply.

#### Permissible:

Elbow length or long sleeved collared knit polo shirts or simple collared tailored shirts.

Turtlenecks or mock turtleneck tops

Plain uniform color (white, navy blue, hunter green or light yellow) sweatshirts in good repair (may be hooded) if worn over top of uniform. They may not be significantly oversized, be faded or torn.

Plain uniform color or white cardigan or crewneck sweaters or vests, either fleece or knit (may be hooded) worn over uniform

Only St. Vincent de Paul T-shirts or sweatshirts that have been designed and distributed by the school may be worn.

#### Not Allowed:

No corduroy or denim material on any uniform garment

No self-made designs or logos, even if they make reference to school name or mascot.

Beginning the first school day after January 1<sup>st</sup> of their graduating year, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students may be allowed to wear official Blanchet Catholic School tops (in approved styles) or sweatshirts during class times (not during Mass). This is a dress code exception for our graduating students that is an honor and may be denied to any individual student that does

not meet St. Vincent Catholic School expectations for sustained excellent student conduct and dress code compliance.

**b) Bottoms:**

Permissible:

Navy blue straight leg twill slacks

Navy blue walking shorts (Before November 1<sup>st</sup> and after Spring Break)

All pants and shorts must be worn at the waist.

Not allowed: Cargo pants, athletic pants, corduroy, blue jeans, low riders, hip huggers, flood pants, stretch type tight pants, etc. No sagging or bagging of the waist or legs of the pants is permitted.

No slacks shall have noticeable contrasting stitching, rivets or accents or be made of shiny or wet appearing material. Long pants should not gather significantly at the bottom nor fit so as to drag on the ground.

**c) Shoes:**

Permissible: Soft-soled, close-toed and closed heeled shoes must be worn. No slick soled shoes are permitted. Soft-soled well-fitting leather loafers may also be worn. Leather, suede or canvas solid-colored tennis shoes are permissible. The only approved uniform shoe colors are primarily white, black, dark navy blue or dark brown. Shoes must be reasonably clean and/or polished.

Not allowed: Plaid/patterned, brightly colored, highly decorated or high-top shoes are not permitted. Cowboy boots, sandals, knee high boots, clogs, moccasins, hiking boots, slipper-type or sling-back shoes are not permitted. Shoes may not have a heel higher than 1”.

Previously, each child was required to have tennis shoes for PE, which would remain at school. The policy is now changed so that only shoes suitable for gym wear (soft-soled) may be worn to school. Hard, slick leather soles are too slippery to wear in the gym for PE classes and for indoor recess. Likewise, shoes with any heel taller than 1” is not safe for running and playing in the gym so will not be permitted as a part of the school uniform. Though the idea of having a second pair of clean tennis shoes at school was a good one, so often we found the shoes were outgrown or misplaced by mid-year. Also, changing shoes before and after each PE class was very time consuming, particularly for the younger students. We have developed other methods of preventative care for our gym floor.

**d) Jewelry:**

Watches or bracelets, and rings are allowed – only one of each category per student. Earrings are not allowed. A plain gold or silver necklace may be worn (with or without a small religious medal), as long as it does not present a hazard during student PE and recess times. No ankle bracelets, please.

**e) Grooming:**

Students' hair (no dyed colors, streaked, or bleached tips) should be neat and clean. Boy's hair must not cover the ear, nor be longer than the top of the shirt collar nor touch the eyebrow. No stripes, tails, completely bald shaved heads or other exotic styles are allowed.

**f) Other Guidelines:**

Belts are not mandatory, but if worn should be solid dark green, dark blue, black or dark brown. If a student consistently has sagging pants, then a belt or suspenders may be required by the school. Socks are to be of solid-uniform color or white (no stripes or large logos) and must cover the ankles.

Students are not permitted to wear shorts as a part of school uniform during Mass.

Students can bring non-uniform color coats, sweatshirts or hats to wear to and from school as well as during recess. However these garments will not be allowed to worn during class time, or during Mass. If a student feels chilly in the class or church, then an approved uniform sweatshirt or sweater may be worn. No clothing or shoes made of shiny or wet-appearing material is an approved part of the school uniform.

There may be no logos or printing on any non-uniform garment that might be considered suggestive, violent, or otherwise inappropriate. No visible colored T-shirts under tops. No hats, neck scarves or bandannas in class. A long sleeved shirt worn under a short-sleeved shirt is not permissible.

***Important!***

Shorts are not an acceptable part of the school uniform for Mass. Absolutely no visible tattoo-type markings, piercing, stickers, paintings or writings anywhere on skin are allowed.

Regular and/or willful disregard for the school uniform policy could result in a student not being able to participate in "free dress pass" or other dress code waivers. Families are encouraged to work within the school decision-making process to develop future revisions to this policy. Changes and updates are expected to be needed from time to time.

**End of Policy**

**11/30/2005**