

STANDARDS OF STUDENT DRESS



Introduction

The human body shares in the dignity of "the image of God": it is a human body precisely because it is animated by a spiritual soul, and it is the whole human person that is intended to become, in the body of Christ, a temple of the Spirit... CCC 364

Our foundational belief as Catholics is that we are made in the image of God, and therefore our bodies have inherent dignity. Further, we believe that the unity of body and soul together form the person. The St. Gabriel Standards of Student Dress is developed and reviewed annually through consultation with staff, parents, and students which gives clear guidelines and expectations for student dress in order to honor the dignity of the human person.

Philosophy

In Edmonton Catholic Schools, students are expected to dress in a manner that honors the dignity of the human person, who was created in the image of God, and that supports an inclusive, welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment that promotes the well-being of all. Understanding that it is not possible to list all the specific types of acceptable and unacceptable student dress, the purpose of establishing Standards of Student Dress is to empower students to make appropriate choices.

Students are expected to dress in a manner which is appropriate for the school day or for any school sponsored event. All students shall come to school dressed in a comfortable manner that allows them to be authentically who they are, while also meeting the standards in this document.

Students who do not meet the Standards of Student Dress will be required by the school principal or their designate to meet the standards before participating in school activities. The St. Gabriel staff will facilitate the enabling of students to meet the standards in such situations whenever possible.

Student dress must maintain personal safety and the safety of the school community. Students are expected to dress in a manner that supports a welcoming, caring, respectful and Catholic learning

environment that is mindful of diversity and that fosters a sense of belonging. Students will dress to reflect our charism, *'Uniquely made in the image of God, serving each other through light and love'*.

Guidelines

Students at St. Gabriel School must wear:

- Clothing and footwear suitable for a variety of learning activities and weather conditions.
- A shirt or the equivalent (tops) with fabric in the front, back, and sides under the arms, and pants or the equivalent (bottoms), and
- Footwear when on the school site.

****** Courses or activities or team sports may require specific attire for safety or curriculum purposes (i.e.: CTF/CTS, PEd, science labs, field trips, sports teams)

Students at St. Gabriel Catholic School **may not** wear:

- articles of clothing, jewelry or accessories that indicate or suggest membership in, support of or affiliation with any group or organization that does not support a welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging, and
- articles of clothing that discriminate based on age, religion, gender, gender identity/expression, body type, race, country of origin, political affiliation, ability, and socio-economic status and
- articles of clothing with words or text that depict or imply hate, violence, profanity, drugs/drug use, alcohol/alcohol use, sexual activity, or criminal activity.
- Underwear must not be visible or exposed, and buttocks and nipples must be covered with opaque fabric and remain so during all activities over the course of the school day.
- Headphones and earbuds cannot be worn during the instructional day without permission from the teacher.

Students who have not met the standard, as outlined above, will be addressed in the following manner:

At the first possible opportunity for a private conversation, the staff member who has identified the issue will speak to the student about the concern in a manner that respects their privacy and dignity. Care will be taken to avoid “shaming” or statements of bias.

The student will be presented with options to bring them into closer alignment with the standard for the remainder of the school day such as:

- wearing another article of their own clothing which they have at school that is in alignment with the standard, or

- contacting a parent or guardian to bring in an article of clothing that is in alignment with the standard, or
- borrowing an article of clothing from a friend that is in alignment with the standard.

Where possible, students should not be required to wear school owned replacement garments and should never be required to wear specific garments as a disciplinary measure.