
ST. THOMAS MORE STUDENT DRESS CODE

The concept of a dress policy has a long tradition in the Catholic Secondary School communities in Hamilton. The St. Thomas More community strongly supports this tradition. There are economic and practical advantages to support a school dress policy. The real advantage is that a dress policy supports the school's philosophy; namely, that each individual is unique and his/her richness comes from within and not from external appearance. We also believe that only through working together, learning together and praying together can we as individuals form a greater whole, our Catholic School community. Like a successful team which takes pride in its uniform, we at St. Thomas More take pride in our uniform, in each individual person and in our school community.

We have established a common dress policy, the specifics of which are listed on the pages that follow. While it is possible to list all that may be worn, it is not possible to address all the external trappings that some students might choose to adopt. Suffice it to say that any externals that are not in keeping with the spirit of the dress code will not be acceptable. Any questions or clarification will be addressed by a Vice-Principal.

EVERY STUDENT WILL BE EXPECTED TO BE IN FULL UNIFORM, WEARING ONLY UNIFORM ITEMS, WHILE IN SCHOOL THROUGHOUT EVERY DAY. OFFENDERS SHOULD EXPECT TO BE SENT HOME.

NOTE:

Items noted as S.T.M. uniform attire must have a school monogram and be purchased from the school's official supplier. The current supplier is:

Bombardieri Uniforms
460 Barton Street East
Hamilton, Ontario
L8L 2Y6
Phone: (905) 525-6684
Fax: (905) 525-5766
Web: WWW.BOMBARDIERI.CA

GENERAL NOTES

1. All students are required to be neat, clean and decent in their appearance; **shirts must be buttoned up to the second button. Pant legs are not to be rolled up or tucked into socks or boots.** There are to be no rips or tears in any parts of clothing. This regulation applies to footwear also. Socks and/or tights must be worn at all times, on full uniform days.
2. Students must be in compliance with the dress policy at all times before and during regular school hours including lunch and spares. Students not in compliance will be sent home or detained in the office.
3. **JEANS OF ANY COLOUR ARE NEVER PERMITTED** on any uniform days and exemptions will not be granted. Students will automatically be sent home for wearing jeans. **[PARENTS MAY NOT ASK FOR AN EXEMPTION ON "UNIFORM DAYS".]**
4. Garments not supplied by the uniform store for the past **four** years are not permitted (e.g. khaki colour pants, yellow or brown sweater or yellow golf shirt, brown kilt without the black and brown rigger shirts, Phys-ed Hoodies).
5. Spirit wear or team or club wear is not part of the uniform. Current school year team jerseys may be worn to promote school spirit on game days **only** and school spirit shirts may be worn only on designated spirit days.
6. Hats, bandanas, hoods, scarves and other head adornments unless approved by the Vice-Principal are not to be worn in the school building at any time including spares and lunches.

7. Uniform items must be size appropriate – not too small nor too large. Undergarments shall not be exposed. Alterations to modify style (eg. shirts taken in or pant legs tapered or slit) are not permitted.

8. **CIVIES DAYS**

"Civies" days may be granted occasionally to afford the opportunity to dry-clean/repair as necessary. On these days, students may not wear clothes with graphics promoting unacceptable lifestyles or inappropriate or derogatory comments, (e.g. alcohol, drugs, sex, etc.) hats, halter-tops, midriff baring tops, tank tops, low cut pants, spandex pants or shorts, tights or similar inappropriate clothing. **Jeans are permitted on civies days ONLY. Shorts are permitted if the hem falls to the top of the knee cap.** Where clothing is judged to be inappropriate for our Catholic school by a school administrator, the student will be required to change or will be sent home.

9. **OUTERWEAR**

Outerwear, including work boots, hats, coats, spring/winter jackets, sweat sweaters non-uniform sweaters, etc. are not permitted in classrooms or anywhere in the school. These items should not be carried from class to class; they are to be placed in your lockers upon arrival at school.

10. **INCLEMENT WEATHER / WINTER MONTHS**

i) **SWEATERS:** if students need a **SWEATER** for warmth it **MUST BE AN STM UNIFORM SWEATER.** All other sweaters are to be placed in the locker upon arrival to school, until the end of the school day.

ii) **WINTER COATS/JACKETS:** may be CARRIED during lunch period in the CAFETERIA and in the LOWER FORUM only (not in the servery). This is based on the recognition that students often go outside during lunch. A winter jacket may be worn to and from a portable.

11. **FIELD TRIPS**

The school dress policy is in effect for field trips, unless, due to the nature of the trip, a pre-authorized exemption is made by the organizing teacher.

12. **PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASSES**

Students enrolled in Physical Education classes are required to wear the gym uniform which consists of a S.T.M. T-shirt, and S.T.M. shorts. An optional grey sweat pant. and sweat shirt are available.

13. EXAMINATION DAYS

Regular school dress code is required for all examination days.

14. THE SPIRIT OF DRESS CODE

While it is possible to list all that may be worn, it is not possible to address all the external trappings that some students might choose to adopt; this includes coloured laces, chains, jewellery (especially facial piercings), adornments, spiked bracelets/necklaces, excessive make-up, etc. **VISIBLE PIERCINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED** except for earrings of reasonable size and number. Taping over jewellery is not permitted. Chains and necklaces must be worn beneath the shirt. Suffice it to say that any externals not in keeping with the spirit of the uniform code as judged by the school administration will not be acceptable.

15. The items of clothing designated as "Required" are the items that a student must have in order to comply with the dress policy.

MALE DRESS CODE REQUIRED

Shirts

Polo shirts or Rugger shirts are required. All shirts must be buttoned to the second button from the top. Should it be necessary to wear a T-shirt beneath your S.T. M. top, **only a plain** white or black short sleeve T-shirt tucked in will be permitted.

S.T.M. Black Pants

Zippers and buttons must be fastened. May not have frayed bottoms, split inseams, flared tailored panels inserted or tapered leg. Must be embroidered with school logo from supplier.

Shoes with Pants

Black or white running shoes(with black or white laces), dark coloured dress shoes, or dress boots (not work boots or Kodiak) without adornments, laced up with the pant leg fully draped over the boot and/or shoe.

Socks with Pants/Shorts

Only black or white socks worn at the ankle or higher.

S.T.M. Walking Shorts

May be worn from the first day of spring to the last day of fall. Walking Shorts may not be rolled up. They must have a minimum inseam of 11 inches.

Shoes with Shorts

Black or white running shoes(with black or white laces) or dark coloured dress shoes, cut below the ankle may be worn.

REQUIRED S.T.M. OUTERWEAR

All items must be worn overtop a collared shirt. Students must purchase one of the following: STM Cardigan (New!), STM Zippered Jacket (New!) or STM Zipper Front Sweatshirt.

NO OTHER SWEATER CAN BE WORN OR CARRIED DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.

FEMALE DRESS CODE - REQUIRED

Shirts

Polo shirts or Rugger shirts are required. All shirts must be buttoned to the second button from the top. Should it be necessary to wear a T-shirt beneath your S.T.M. top, **only a plain** white or black short sleeve T-shirt tucked in will be permitted.

Kilt

To be hemmed within 4" of the knee. It is recommended that enough material be left for future lengthening.

Tights with Kilts

The opaque black tights or leotards are required (sheer nylons and socks are not permitted)

Shoes with Kilts/Shorts

Black or white running shoes (with black or white laces) or dark coloured dress shoes, cut below the ankle, with no more than a 1-1/2" heel and no adornments are permitted. Boots of any kind are not permitted with the kilt or short. Ballerina style shoes are not permitted.

S.T.M. Walking Shorts

May be worn from the first day of spring to the last day of fall. Walking shorts may not be rolled up. They must have a minimum inseam of 11 inches.

S.T.M. Black Pants

Zippers and buttons must be fastened. May not have frayed bottoms, split inseams, and flared tailored panels inserted or tapered leg.

Socks with Pants/shorts

Only black or white socks worn at the ankle or higher.

Shoes with Pants

Black or white running shoes(with black or white laces), dress shoes, or dark coloured dress boots (not work boots or Kodiak) without adornments, laced up with the pant leg fully draped over the boot. Ballerina style shoes are not permitted.

REQUIRED S.T.M. OUTERWEAR

All items must be worn overtop a collared shirt. Students must purchase one of the following: STM Cardigan (New!), STM Zippered Jacket (New!) or STM Zipper Front Sweatshirt.

PHYS. ED. REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Males and Females

Phys. Ed. T-shirt

Phys. Ed. Shorts

***Garments purchased for Phys. Ed. or Dance may **not** be worn as "regular" dress code.

Optional for Phys. Ed. Males or Females

Phys. Ed. Sweatshirt/Sweatpants

Phys. Ed./Dance Joggers: Must be grey for all students.

STOP DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS!

1. Hats, bandanas, visors, and other head adornments are not to be worn in the school.
2. If a T-shirt must be worn underneath the S.T.M. top, only plain white or black short sleeved shirts are permitted.
3. Visible piercings are not permitted. Normal earrings excepted.
4. Pants may not be rolled up and zippers and buttons must be fastened.
5. Outer wear including work boots, hats, jackets, non-uniform sweater, etc, are not permitted in the school. These items should not be carried from class to class; there are to be placed in you lockers upon arrival at school.
6. Garments not supplied by the uniform store for the past four years are not permitted. (e.g. hooded sweatshirt, ¼ zipper sweatshirt)