**SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

**Summary of Uniform Policy for 2017-2018 School Year**

**Uniform Sources**

Appropriate sources for uniform clothing are identified and listed for parents’ convenience.  We’ve experienced problems with tight or form-fitting clothes, low-rise pants, shirts with buttons that run too low, etc.  We considered taking the same route that Dowling has - requiring that all uniforms are purchased from just one approved vendor.  Parents told us on the survey that they didn't want just one vendor, so we're hoping that an approved list is a workable compromise. We worked to find retailers with appropriate uniform sections to provide a variety of sizes and price ranges.   This assures that uniform items will be appropriate for school.

**All uniform clothing items must be purchased from the uniform departments at the appropriate vendors**:

* **JC Penney**- Uniform Section available in some stores, by catalog and on-line at [www.jcpenney.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcpenney.com%2F).
* **Sears**- Uniform section available in some stores, by catalog and on-line at [www.sears.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sears.com%2F).
* **Target -**Uniform Section available in some stores and on-line at [www.target.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcpenney.com%2F).
* **Kohl’s** - Uniform Section available in some stores and on-line at [www.kohls.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcpenney.com%2F).
* **Dillard’s**- Uniform Section available in some stores and on-line at [www.dillards.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcpenney.com%2F).
* **Gap** - Uniform Section available in some stores and on-line at [www.gap.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcpenney.com%2F).
* **Old Navy**- Uniform Section available in some stores and on-line at [www.oldnavy.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.jcpenney.com%2F).
* **Lands End** - Uniform Section available on-line at [www.landsend.com](http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=54405344&msgid=481468&act=PBQQ&c=780786&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.landsend.com%2F)

**SCHOOL UNIFORMS:  GENERAL RULES FOR ALL STUDENTS**

Uniforms will be worn at school at all times, unless a school “out -of-uniform day” is declared.  Anything that distracts or detracts from the purpose of the uniform will not be allowed.  **PLEASE DON’T EXPECT TO BE THE EXCEPTION TO THE UNIFORM DRESS CODE.**

**SCHOOL SHOES:**

* Dress shoes or tennis shoes are allowed.
* No open toe.  Must have closed heel and be flat-soled.
* Children should be able to play safely in the shoes that they wear to school.
* No sandals or clogs are permitted.  No slippers or moccasins are permitted.

**HAIRSTYLES:**

* Hairstyles should be simple, clean cut, and well groomed.
* Boys’ hair should not reach the collar or go over the top of the ears or below the eyebrows.  Mohawks or like haircuts are not permitted.
* Only natural-looking highlights will be permitted.  No stripes, coloring, bleaching or any hair that distracts students will be permitted.
* The school principal has the authority to require students to cut their hair or change their hairstyle if in his or her opinion the length or style is inappropriate.  Wigs or hair extensions are not permitted for any student without special permission of the principal.

**JEWELRY:**

* Girls can wear earrings, but no dangling earrings and no earrings that are lower than the ear lobe are permitted.
* No more than one earring is allowed in one ear at any time.
* Only bracelets and necklaces of a religious nature can be worn.  Only one bracelet or necklace may be worn at a time.  NO ROPE NECKLACES PERMITTED AT ANYTIME.
* Boys will not be allowed to wear earrings at any time.

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**Grades K-5**

**Uniform Policy Enforcement:**

Uniform clothing is to be clean, fit appropriately and in good repair.  Your student should be dressed appropriately for school - no tight, form-fitting or revealing clothing, no skin showing between shirts and pants and no undergarments should be visible.

**Pants**

* Color:   Navy blue.
* Style:  Straight or boot cut leg, ankle length made of broad cloth or corduroy.  Must be at or just below waist.
* No low-rise, stretch, knit pants or bell-bottom pants are permitted.  Pant length cannot touch floor.
* All Pants must be purchased from one of the approved vendors listed above

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**Shorts**

* May be worn in August, September, May and June.
* Color:Navy blue
* Style: Plain, same uniform style as pants.  No cargo shorts.
* Must have at least 6” inseam and not extend longer than middle of the knee.
* All shorts must be purchased from one of the approved vendors listed above.

**Belts**

* Belts must be worn with all pants with belt loops and students are NOT allowed to cut off belt loops.  All uniform pants/short have belt loops.  Extra belt length must be worn in the belt loops.
* Belt must be an item intended to be a belt.

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**Sweaters & Sweatshirts**

* Solid navy blue white cardigan, vest or a long-sleeved, crew neck pullover sweater. No monograms, labels or insignias.
* St. Anthony or Dowling sweatshirts.  Fleece sweatshirt from SAS or DCHS will be allowed but must have the St. Anthony School or Dowling Catholic Emblem on the front.  No hooded sweatshirts allowed.
* Uniform shirt must always be worn under sweater or sweatshirt.

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**Shirts**

* Must be tucked in at all times.
* All shirts must be purchased from one of the approved vendors listed above
* White turtlenecks may be worn by all students but must be of the type, style, and material sold by Carpenter Uniform Co.  St. Anthony logo on the neck is optional.
* White or light blue polo style shirts.  Must be plain with no insignia or labels of any kind.  Maximum of 5 buttons, only top two can be unbuttoned.  Polo shirts can be long- or short-sleeved.
* No undergarments, including camisoles, should be visible.

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**Socks**

* Solid color navy, black, or white.   Socks must always be worn.​

​**GIRLS ONLY** (in addition to above):

**Capri Pants**

* Navy.  August, September, May and June only.
* All Capris must be purchased from one of the approved vendors listed above

**Skirts/Shorts/Culottes**

* Girls will be allowed to wear a plaid jumper or skirt purchased from Land’s End Uniform in the approved St. Anthony Colors (Classic Navy Plaid). Jumpers and skirts will be no shorter than 2” above the top of the kneecap.
* May wear navy or white tights under.  Pants may be worn under skirts only when outside on playground.

**Shirts**

* White cotton or cotton/poly blend blouse with either a button down collar. Sleeves must be straight cut sleeve length at just above the elbow or to the wrist.
* All shirts must be purchased from one of the approved vendors listed above

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**OUTDOOR COLD WEATHER GEAR**

When cold weather arrives in Iowa, we know that temperatures can vary from day to day. Please remember that we will go outside everyday unless the wind chill falls below zero or unless weather is inclement.

**Intermediate Grades (3-5)**

Our playground is often covered with snow and/or slush. It is at these times that the students will need to wear boots in order to keep their feet warm and dry. If students wish to play in the snow, snow pants are also required. On days when the playground is dry, students will be allowed to go out without boots, but will need to stay away from any snowy or wet areas. Failure to follow these rules will result with a check mark on their behavior cards.

**DOWLING CATHOLIC SWEATSHIRTS:**

The Catholic schools in Des Moines are proud to be part of the Dowling Connection.  We all consider ourselves as part of a PK-12 school district that includes all the Catholic elementary schools and Dowling.  We are part of a rich and exciting tradition.  As part of our connection with this district, the following uniform policy will be in effect for all grades.

“All students will be allowed to wear a Dowling sweat shirt as part of the uniform throughout the school year.  Students must follow all other uniform rules.  The regular polo or oxford shirt must be worn under the sweatshirt.   Sweatshirts must be clean and in good condition.  **THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE HOODED SWEATSHIRTS, SPORTS JERSEYS OF ANY KIND, OR T-SHIRTS.  THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE SWEATSHIRTS FROM SCHOOLS OTHER THAN DOWLING.”**