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*"A proud feeder school to St. Mary Catholic Secondary School"*

**SUPERINTENDENT: M. HUCAL**  
**PRINCIPAL: D. YOUNGER**  
**PRINCIPAL INTERN: C. HORZELENBERG**

**TRUSTEE: C. CORNALE**  
**PASTOR: VERY REV. W.L. FATHER. LOBSINGER, EV, PP**  
**SECRETARY: M. RATH**

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## **St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Elementary School – Uniform Policy 2017 – 2018 School Year**

As per the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board's Mandatory School Uniform Policy, students at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School are required to wear the approved school uniform every day upon arrival and entrance into the school until they leave the school property. All pieces may be purchased through our school's supplier, McCarthy's. Parents are not mandated to buy from the supplier chosen by the school although all items purchased must be comparable in design, colour and fabric and have no advertising on them. All clothing purchased must meet the criteria listed below. School crests may be purchased directly from the office if needed.

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### **Tops**

- Navy blue or white golf style shirt (long and short sleeved) with school logo embroidered or crested
- Must be long enough to be tucked in, but they are not required to be tucked in
- Clothing underneath uniform top must be navy or white in colour
- Lace trims or accessorized trims are not to be visible

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### **Bottoms**

- Navy in colour
- Skirts, jumpers and walking shorts must be of appropriate length (approximately 2 – 3 inches above knee). If a student is addressed on more than two occasions for inappropriate length of skirt, jumper or shorts, then they will lose the privilege of wearing these and will be required to wear uniform pants.
- Pants/shorts may have no more than 2 front side pockets and 2 back rear pockets
- No trackpants, cargo pants, cords, zippered leg or denim allowed
- All bottoms must be worn at top of hips with unadorned solid black or navy belt if needed
- No suspenders
- No undergarments are to be visible
- No frayed or cut off bottoms

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### **Socks/Nylons/Tights**

- Solid navy or white in colour
- Socks must be knee high, calf or ankle cut
- Tights cannot be patterned, sheer, torn or ripped

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### **Shoes**

- Comfortable running shoes are strongly recommended for active recess play, physical education class and daily physical activity lessons
  - Casual shoes must be worn with proper socks or nylons/tights
  - No flip flops
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### **Athletic Wear – Physical Education Class**

- Intermediate students: mandatory change of clothing
- Junior students: strongly recommended to have a change of clothing
- Primary students: change of clothing not recommended
- Change of clothing must be modest and appropriate in nature as described in Civvies Day

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### **Outerwear**

- Upon school entry into classrooms, all outerwear not acceptable to the uniform policy must be removed and left at the student's coat hook (example: hoodies, jackets, coats, sweaters)
- Outerwear will not be a substitute for uniform sweaters at any time
- Seasonal type uniform articles should be worn inside during the appropriate season, for both warmth and comfort. These must be worn over uniform tops.

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### **Personal Adornment**

- All accessories such as earrings, necklaces, bracelets, and rings must be of modest nature
- Facial piercing, excessive make-up, hair spikes are not permitted
- Baseball caps, hats, bandanas and other headwear are not permitted inside (caps/hats may be worn outside for warmth and sun protection; bandanas are not permitted at any time)
- Staff has the right to request removal of any personal adornments if they believe it is a distraction to the learning environment

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### **Civvies Day**

- The key is to be neat, clean, modest and presentable for a Catholic educational setting at all times. Common sense is important.
- Shorts: Must be reasonable in length (approximately 2 – 3 inches above knee) – cut off shorts and short shorts are unacceptable. Cycling shorts and/or spandex shorts are not acceptable.
- Skirts: Must be modest and reasonable in length (approximately 2 – 3 inches above knee)
- Pants: Must be neat and clean to be acceptable. Excessive patches and holes are unacceptable.
- Tops: Must be appropriate. Bare midriff, muscle shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps and low necks are not allowed – logos must be appropriate for a Catholic high school.
- Shoe: Appropriate shoes must be worn as explained above

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### **Grade 8 Graduation Spirit Wear**

- In direct consultation with principal and teacher

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Uniforms reflect the seriousness and importance of learning. They reinforce the sense of belonging and promote a positive self-awareness. As per School Board policy, please ensure your child(ren) is in proper uniform all year. Mandatory school uniform implies that all students arrive at school dressed appropriately. Failure to do so shall result in consequences. The following progressive disciplinary consequences (as outlined by the School Board) will be followed:

1. Three verbal reminders along with a written notification (notes, agenda) to parents/guardians
2. Written communication by the Principal or designate to parent/guardian regarding the breach of the Board policy and following consequences for further breach:
  - i. loss of privileges (but not recess) and/or
  - ii. student receives detention/age appropriate discipline assignment and/or
  - iii. parent is contacted to pick up the student from school and/or
  - iv. student will be suspended if the student attends without proper uniform attire (this would not be a surprise)

If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact the principal of the school at any time.