



OUR LADY
of CHARITY

Uniform Policy

As noted in *The Washington Post*, there are three important reasons for the uniform in Catholic schools:

1. They are a symbol of our equality of persons created in the image of God.
2. The uniform represents order and discipline; discipline based on mutual respect among students and between students and teachers.
3. A third reason for school uniforms is costs: education can be expensive enough for families and for communities.

The school needs parental support and cooperation to enforce the school uniform policy. Students will be in uniform on the first day of school. The school principal has final determination of appropriate attire and hairstyles.

All school uniforms can be purchased through:
Schoolbelles, 7661 South Harlem Avenue, Bridgeview
(708) 929-4695 fax # (708) 929-4697

Pre-kindergarten uniform only:

Pre-kindergarten students will wear the Our Lady of Charity gym uniform with gym shoes (plain black or white shoes with velcro no flashing lights, cartoon characters, etc.) everyday.

Grades K-8

Shirts/Blouses

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|--------|------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Boys: | Grades K-8 | Long or short sleeve white polo shirts* |
| Girls: | Grades K-8 | Plain white uniform button-down cotton blouses |

or white long or short sleeve polo shirts*

*Shirts, blouses, and polos must be tucked in at all times.

Pants

Boys: Grades K-8 Black twill dress trousers; trousers should fit appropriately and be worn at the waist. This also applies to out-of-uniform days. No baggy or oversized trousers will be allowed.

Girls: Grades K-8 Black twill dress trousers may be worn year-round.

Skirts/Jumpers

Girls: Grades K-4 White/red/black plaid v-neck jumpers
Grade 5-8 White/red/black plaid split skirts or kick pleat skirts*

*If shorts are worn under the skirts, they must be shorter than the skirt. Proper skirt length is TWO INCHES above the knee or longer. Black leggings may be worn under the skirt or jumper.

Sweaters

Boys: Grades K-8 Plain red cardigans, red v-neck pullovers, or OLC sweatshirts must be worn.

Girls: Grades K-4 Plain red cardigans or OLC sweatshirts may be worn.

Grades 5-8 Plain red cardigans, red v-neck pullovers, red vests, or OLC sweatshirts must be worn.

Socks/ Tights

Boys: Grades K-8 Black or white socks

Girls: Grades K-8 Knee-high or over the ankle solid red, white, or black socks or tights are permitted.

Shoes

Students K-8

- Black or brown dress shoes must be worn with the school uniform. Heels should be low and have a soft sole. All black or all white low-top sneakers may also be worn with the school uniform. Sneakers should not have designs, contrasting logos, flashing lights, or any other distractions.
- Sneakers are required on gym days
- Snow, hiking, or cowboy boots, or other forms of outdoor footwear, are not permitted in class. If it becomes necessary to wear any of the above because of weather conditions, they must be exchanged for school shoes in the classroom.
- School principal will make the final determination of the appropriateness of the shoe. Please be conservative with your choice of shoe. If necessary, parents may be asked to replace the student's shoes.

Hairstyles

Student's hair must be neat, clean, well-groomed, and reflect a conservative style. Extreme styles are not acceptable: no tails, no designs of any kind, and no shaved to the skin (full or partial head). Boys may not have hair length past their collar and may not go below mid ear and the front may not pass the eyebrows. Hair must remain its natural color. No highlighted, frosted, or dyed hair is acceptable.

Jewelry, Makeup, and Nail Polish

- Makeup and nail polish are not permitted. This also applies for out of uniform days.
- Wrist watches and appropriate religious medals or crosses are the only jewelry that is permitted to be worn by students. Bracelets (except medical) are not allowed.
- Body art, including self-applied marker, ink, etc., is not allowed
- Girls who have pierced ears may wear one pair of small stud earrings. Earrings are not permitted in the cartilage of the ear. Boys are prohibited from wearing earrings.

Warm weather uniform (optional)

From the beginning of school until October 31 and from May 1 until the end of the school year.

Shorts- boys and girls

Grades K-8 Black walking shorts, shorts should be above the knee and below mid-thigh.

Socks- boys and girls

Grades K-8 over the ankle socks; no patterns or designs are allowed on socks.

Girls: Only solid red, white or black socks or tights are permitted

Cold weather uniform (optional)

From November 1 until March 31

Shirts

Boys: Grades K-8 White turtleneck knit shirts or long sleeve white polo shirts

Girls: Grades K-8 White turtleneck knit shirts or long sleeve white polo shirts

Pants/Slacks- Boys and Girls

Grade K-8 Black twill slacks (no jeans, polyester pull-ups, or corduroys)

Gym uniform for all grades

- Only Our Lady of Charity School logo gym wear is permitted. Sweatpants must be worn at the waist. Sweatpants must be worn to ankle length.
- Students may wear a long sleeve t-shirt underneath their gym shirt from November 1 through March 1. The only color permitted is white.
- Students are required to wear standard gym shoes.
- Gym wear may only be worn on gym (P.E.) days.

Non-uniform days

Children are not required to wear their school uniforms on these days:

1. The child's birthday
2. A day where the child has earned a "No uniform day" as a prize or reward

3. Days in which the school has declared an out-of-uniform day due to a Student Council activity, a holiday celebration, class pictures, or other special occasions

When children are not in uniform, they are expected to come to school dressed appropriately. Tight fitting clothing as well as T-shirts, buttons or patches with suggestive or double meanings are not appropriate dress for school. Halter tops, tank tops, short-shorts, skinny jeans, leggings, yoga pants, and excessively loose fitting clothes may not be worn.

The school reserves the right to have the child call home for a change of clothes should he/she be dressed inappropriately; the child may be required to wait in the school office.

The uniform code on jewelry, make up, nail polish, hair, and shoes applies on non-uniform days.