

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Uniform Regulations

Each student is expected to be in a clean, neat and complete uniform everyday unless a free dress day is declared by the school. Uniforms are to be washed and/or dry cleaned on a regular basis. Skirts are meant to be pleated and those pleats should be clearly evident throughout the school year. A student whose uniform is not tidy will receive a written notification for his/her parents to attend to the cleanliness of that uniform and may even be suspended until (s)he can return to school in a clean, neat (pleated, if necessary) and complete uniform. When a student cannot be in full uniform, a written note of explanation is required. This note should explain the reason for the violation and the date, within two school days, when the student will be in full uniform again.

GIRLS: Girls wear blue plaid skirts (with straps in grades kindergarten through fourth), white blouses that can be tucked inside the skirt with peter pan collar, (not over blouses which are not meant to be tucked in), navy blue (not white) knee socks, black or navy NON-MARKING laced shoes with soft soles and flat heels or black NON-MARKING, leather athletic shoes. Please see the separate section on shoes for further details. Girls wear a navy blue cardigan sweater. Girls in grades kindergarten through four whose skirt size does not come with the required straps should ask Simply Uniform or Dennis Uniform to add the straps to the skirt when it is purchased. We have an arrangement with the Company for them to do this.

All girls wear the school's uniform red tie with their school blouses every day. Girls in kindergarten through sixth grade wear the red tie with the plain red button. Girls in grades seven and eight wear the red tie with the white button. Girls who forget to wear their ties may be asked to rent one for \$1 per day. Shorts must be worn by kindergarten through fourth grade girls under their uniform skirts/jumpers. Girls in fifth through eighth grade may wear them if they wish. However, only solid navy blue shorts are allowed. They must not be so long as to show below the hem line nor when the student is walking in lines, the hallways, etc. Biker shorts and tight fitting shorts are not permitted.

Girls are allowed to wear the navy uniform pants in place of their skirt, if they wish, during the days of the school year designated by the administration. The uniform pant must be the one chosen by the school from the uniform companies. Navy blue knee socks must be worn with the pants. The pants are an optional part of the uniform; no girl needs to purchase these pants. Girls may wear plain, navy blue tights if they wish when the weather is cold.

BOYS: Boys wear navy blue cords with a black or navy belt, white short-sleeved uniform shirt (pointed collar), navy blue cardigan sweater and black or navy laced NON-MARKING shoes with soft soles and flat heels or black NON-MARKING, leather athletic shoes. Please see the separate section on shoes for further details. Socks must be crew length, past the ankle. They may be either white or dark blue. Socks must be worn each day.

Boys without belts may be asked to rent one for \$1 per day. Kindergartners who need to wear elastic waist pants rather than belted (for bathroom purposes) may do so.

Seventh and eighth grade boys should have a solid navy blue tie at school during the school year. They will be asked to wear them for student liturgies and other special occasions. Boys in grades kindergarten through six are not to wear ties. Boys are never to button the top button of their shirts with the only exception being when the seventh and eighth grade boys are required to wear their ties.

SHOES: Please be aware that some of our regulations regarding shoes have been modified or changed in order to allow school shoes to be worn in the gym during Dance and /or P.E. classes and at recess time. In order to prevent damage to the floor in the gym and to ease the wear and tear on socks we are allowing students to wear only shoes that are NON-MARKING.

Both boys and girls wear black or navy laced NON-MARKING shoes with soft soles and flat heels or black NON-MARKING, leather athletic shoes. Neither boys nor girls may wear tennis shoes, boots, canvas shoes such as Vans or Converse, high top, rubber, plastic or any other extreme style shoe at school. Shoes must not have any logos or markings unless they are in black on black. Do not choose shoes and then try to use marker to mark out white insignias, etc. This is no longer acceptable. If you have any reservation about the acceptability of a shoe, DON'T BUY IT, or bring it to the school office to check on it before it is worn. If it isn't an acceptable style, it can't be worn at school even if we have not noticed it for some time. Leather athletic shoes must be solid black, NON-MARKING, no stripes or decorations. This includes heel emblems. Please do not purchase shoes with markings and attempt to paint them out. They are not permitted. No Mary-Jane style shoes may be worn. No high tops or shoes cut higher than oxford style shoe; no slip-ons.. Kindergarten students who do not know how to tie their own shoes should wear shoes that close with *Velcro*. Shoes with Velcro are not allowed after Kindergarten. Shoes may be purchased at a location of your choice.

SWEATERS: Sweaters should have names, not just initials, sewn into the sweater. Only the uniform sweater may be worn in the classroom and at school functions. Students who need extra warmth because of a cold, etc., may wear a St. Thomas More turtleneck under their blouse/shirt. Those turtlenecks are **ONLY** available through the school during specific times of the year. No other sweater, shirt, etc. is allowed under the uniform except a plain white T-shirt. Colored or printed T-shirts or sweatshirts may not be worn underneath shirts or blouses.

As a special privilege, 8th graders are allowed to wear their graduation sweatshirts as part of their uniform. However, the Saint Thomas More or Bronco insignia sweatshirts are not part of the uniform and may not be worn in the classroom in lieu of the uniform sweater.

ATHLETIC UNIFORM: No part of the St. Thomas More athletic uniform is to be worn except by the athlete while participating as a member of a school team. Athletic uniforms are not to be worn as underwear or play clothes.

HAIR & JEWELRY: Extreme hairstyles (in the judgment of the school) are not allowed. Long hair on boys is not permitted. Boys' hair must be cut around the ears and may not touch the collar. Neither boys nor girls may dye or bleach their hair. Tails, stripes, shaved designs, spikes, and longer hair at the neckline are not permitted. No make-up, lip-gloss, nail polish, or jewelry are permitted. Girls with pierced ears may only wear a single small post, one per ear. Earrings such as hoops, even small ones, and those that fall lower than the earlobe are not permitted. Boys may not wear earrings.

FREE DRESS: On the occasions when a free dress day is declared, students may wear whatever clothing you feel is appropriate as long as they believe it will not be offensive to other students or to the school staff. Such free dress must be modest in the judgment of the staff. Short skirts/shorts, bare midriffs, and tops and dresses with spaghetti straps are never appropriate. For some special occasions, such as attendance at the opera, ballet, American Conservatory Theater, etc., the participating students may be told that they have *dressy* free dress for that occasion. That means no shorts, T-shirts, collarless shirts, saggy and/or torn pants, jeans, tennis shoes, play clothes, etc. Students not dressed appropriately in the judgment of the staff, will not be allowed to participate in the event.

If you have any questions about the appropriateness or acceptability of any item, please contact the school office where final decisions are made. Respect for self and school regulations as well as personal pride in one's school are reflected in a student with a well kept uniform. Thank you for your co-operation.