

St. Bonaventure Standard of Student Dress

Updated April 29, 2022

Philosophy

- *In Edmonton Catholic Schools, students are expected to dress in a manner that honors the dignity of the human person, who is created in the image of God, and that supports an inclusive, welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment that promotes the well-being of all. Each school in the Division will have a **Standards of Student Dress** for their community. Understanding that it is not possible to list all the specific types of acceptable and unacceptable student dress, the purpose of establishing **Standards of Student Dress** is to empower students to make appropriate choices.*
- *Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate for the school day or for any school-sponsored event. All students shall come to school dressed in a **comfortable manner that allows them to be authentically who they are, while also meeting the standards in this document.***
- *Students who do not meet the **Standards of Student Dress** will be required by the school principal or their designate to meet the standards before participating in school activities. Schools will facilitate the enabling of students to meet the standards in such situations whenever possible.*

Students at St. Bonaventure **must** wear:

- **A shirt or equivalent (tops)**
 - Illustrative examples of tops: t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, tank tops, polos, blouses, hoodies.
 - There must be opaque fabric in the front, back, and sides under the arms.
 - Private parts must be covered.
 - Activities may require specific clothing for safety or curriculum purposes (phys ed, field trips).
- **Pants or equivalent (bottoms)**
 - Illustrative examples of bottoms: jeans, leggings, sweatpants, skirts/skort, dresses, shorts, pants.
 - Private parts must be covered.
 - Activities may require specific clothing for safety or curriculum purposes (phys ed, field trips).
- **Footwear**
 - Illustrative examples of *indoor footwear*: Runners, casual shoes, dress shoes, flip flops, sandals.
 - Students must have indoor and outdoor footwear at school.
 - Activities may require specific footwear for safety or curriculum purposes (phys ed, field trips).
 - Bare feet/sock feet are not permitted either indoors or outdoors for safety reasons unless required for curricular purposes. Swimming activities may allow bare feet.

Students at St. Bonaventure **may** wear:

- **Hats/Headwear**
 - Illustrative examples of hats/headwear: Baseball caps, toques, headbands.
 - Headwear that is specifically required for religious observance (hijab, yarmulke, turban, durag, etc.)
 - Headwear that is specifically required for medical purposes (in consultation with the principal).
 - Hats and other headwear must allow the face to be visible to staff and must not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff.
 - Hoodies must allow the face to be visible.

Logos or text on clothing must be positive in nature, respectful, or imply or encourage a healthy lifestyle/choice for children and youth in a Catholic school environment.

Students at St. Bonaventure may not wear:

- Articles of clothing, jewellery, or accessories that indicate or suggest membership in or affiliation with any group or organization that does not support a welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, Catholic learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.
- Articles of clothing, jewellery, or accessories that discriminate based on age, religion, gender, gender identity/expression, body type, race, ability, and socio-economic status.
- **Articles of clothing with words or symbols that depict or imply hate, violence, profanity, drugs/drug use, alcohol/alcohol use, sexual activity, or criminal activity.**

Students who do not meet the standard, as outlined above, will be addressed in the following manner:

- At the first possible opportunity for a private conversation, the staff member who has identified the issue will speak to the student about the concern in a manner that respects their privacy and dignity. Care will be taken to avoid “shaming” or using statements of bias.
- The student will be presented with options to bring them into closer alignment with the standard for the remainder of the school day such as:
 - Wearing another article of their own clothing that they have at school that is in alignment with the standard.
 - Borrowing an article of clothing from a friend or from the school that is in alignment with the standard.
 - Contacting a parent or guardian to bring in an article of clothing that is in alignment with the standard.
- Students will not be required to wear school-provided replacement garments and must never be required to wear specific garments as a disciplinary measure.
- The school will always contact parents/guardians if there is any issue brought up with their child’s clothing to let them know the details of the situation.