

# St. Joseph High School

## 2024-25 STUDENT DRESS CODE

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St. Joseph High School students are expected to arrive on campus dressed to meet the school's academic, social, and spiritual mission. Student attire should be appropriate and mature, and should evoke professionalism. The Dean of Students is the final judge of appropriate attire and grooming.

### General Guidelines for All Students

1. The dress code is enforced from the moment students arrive on campus until the end of after-school tutorials. All attire and personal grooming will be clean, neat, and modest. Shirts and polos may be untucked; however, they will be of sufficient length to cover the torso appropriately, and they should not extend below the bottom of rear pockets.  
Images or text which refer directly or indirectly to any of the following cannot be worn:
  - Drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
  - Obscenities or profanities
  - Hate or discrimination
  - Images promoting bands, television shows, movies
  - Any politically related images
  - Any messages contrary to the spirit of the St. Joseph High School mission
2. Slacks, pants, jeans, and shorts will fit appropriately and around the waist; belts are optional. Bottoms should have belt-loops, zipper, and button.  
The following cannot be worn:
  - Drawstring pants or shorts
  - Athleticwear, leggings, yoga pants, or compression shorts
  - Ripped or inappropriately frayed pants, jeans, or shorts
  - Shorts must be long enough so that the individual's hands, when extended downward along their side, come to a rest at a point above the lowermost seam of the clothing.
3. Jackets, sweaters, or STJ-branded hooded sweatshirts may be worn and heads should remain uncovered inside and outside during good weather; outerwear may not be worn into Mass.  
The following cannot be worn:
  - Caps, visors, or cowboy hats
  - Trench coats
  - Blankets
  - Non-STJ-branded hooded sweatshirts
4. Dress shoes, dress sandals, loafers, boots, and tennis shoes may be worn.  
The following cannot be worn:
  - Flip flops, shower shoes, athletic sandals, or athletic slides
  - Crocs-style clogs
  - Slippers or houseshoes (for example, [Uggs slippers](#))
5. Hair should be clean and well groomed. Jewelry and accessories should be appropriate. Take note of the specific piercing guidelines below for male and female students.  
The following cannot be worn:
  - Unnatural hair color
  - Visible tattoos

6. School dances or other special events (for example, grade-level celebrations, ceremonies, or Masses) may require a specific dress code and students who participate are expected to adhere to those guidelines.

### **Guidelines for Male Students**

1. Will be clean shaven daily.
  - Sideburns must not extend below the bottom of the ears
2. Will not allow hair to be too long, nor allow hair to fall below the earlobes, the bottom of the collar, or in front of the eyes.
  - Bizarre hairstyles are not allowed.
3. Earrings or visible body/facial piercings are not permitted.

### **Guidelines for Female Students**

1. Will not wear shirts, blouses, dresses, or tops that are oversized, sleeveless, low-cut, or see-through.
  - Bra, bralette, or tank top straps and midribs must always be covered. Cropped shirts are not permitted.
2. Necklines on blouses and dresses may not go below a line that runs from a point at the top of one armpit straight across to a point at the top of the other, with no visible cleavage. Backs of shirts, blouses, or dresses may not have openings below the line that runs from the top of the arm pit straight across to the other.
3. Up to two ear piercings, per ear, allowed. Gauge or any other visible body/facial piercings are not permitted.
4. Dresses and skirts must be long enough so that the individual's hands, when extended downward along their side, come to a rest at a point above the lowermost seam of the clothing. Slits in skirts must also follow the same guideline.

**St. Joseph High School reserves the right to determine what meets the dress code. Students out of dress code will be required to take corrective action immediately, including calling parents or guardians to bring an appropriate change of clothes to campus. Please note that students who must pull or tug excessively at their clothing in order to comply with the dress code will be found to be in violation. The Dean of Students is the final judge of dress code related questions and determines consequences for any violations.**

Students out of dress code will be given an STJ shirt to wear for the remainder of the school day; students will exchange their cell phone for the shirt, and it will be returned to them at the end of the school day. Students with dress code violations that cannot be corrected with a shirt change will call home for a change of clothing and be placed in an alternative learning environment until a change of clothing is brought.

Continued failure to comply with the dress code will result in a corrective action plan. The dress code corrective action plan is designed to deter students that regularly violate the policy. Following a 4th dress code violation students will be required to attend the Lunch Academic Improvement Period and have their clothing checked three times daily; during home room, at morning break, and at lunch. This dress code policy does include shaving.

Following an 8th dress code violation, students will lose free dress privileges and attend the Lunch Academic Improvement Period as part of a Behavioral Change Plan. During this period of time, a student's specified uniform will be the following:

- Jeans, slacks, or khaki pants, at least ankle length and with a belt,
- Blue, white, gray, or black, short sleeve or long sleeve collared polo, tucked in,
- Closed-toe shoes.

This Behavioral Change Plan will last for two school weeks. Any additional violations will result in loss of free dress privileges for the remainder of the semester. If more than three quarters of the semester has passed at the time of the violation, the corrective action will carry over to the next semester.

Dress Code violation counts will reset at the semester.

### **Co-Curricular Attire on Campus**

Students may not wear competition or performance attire to school that violates the Student Dress Code.

Athletic warmups or sweatpants, sleeveless athletic shirts, or untucked or otherwise inappropriate performance wear is not permitted. Athletes or other co-curricular participants in violation of these policies will be placed in virtual suspension and the Athletic Director or moderator will be notified.

### **Student Attire at Co-Curricular Activities**

Games, dances, performances, etc. are official school events and are therefore under the direction of school officials. Student dress at such events should always be in good taste and reflect the values of St. Joseph High School.