

Good Shepherd Catholic School

Standard of Student Dress



In Edmonton Catholic Schools, students are expected to dress in a manner that honors the dignity of the human person, who was 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 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 are expected to dress in a manner which 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, to fully participate in co-curricular and extra curricular activities, while also meeting the standards in this document. Student dress must maintain personal safety and the safety of the school community.

Students at Good Shepherd must wear:

- A shirt or the equivalent (top) with fabric in the front, back, shoulder area, and sides under the arms that covers the entire abdomen area and back (examples of tops: t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters).
- Pants or the equivalent - bottoms (examples of bottoms: jeans, leggings, sweatpants, skirts, dresses, shorts)
- A clean pair of running shoes (non-marking) must be worn inside the school for safety reasons at all times, and are required for students to participate in Physical Education classes. Shoes must be securely fastened at all times.

Students at Good Shepherd may wear, as long as they are in alignment with this standard's philosophy, headwear that is specifically required for religious observance (i.e.: hijab, yarmulke, turban) or for medical reasons in consultation with the principal.

Clothing that has logos or text on it should be positive in nature, should be respectful, or should imply or encourage a healthy lifestyle/choices for children and youth.

In the school, headwear such as bandanas, caps, hats, hoods from hoodies, or sunglasses are not allowed due to safety reasons. School personnel must be able to easily identify all people within the school at all times.

Underwear must not be visible or exposed and remain so during all activities over the course of the school day.

Students at Good Shepherd 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, and Catholic learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.
- Articles of clothing that discriminate based on age, religion, gender, gender identity/expression, body type, race, ability, and socio-economic status.
- Articles of clothing with words or text that depict or imply hate, violence, profanity, drugs/drug use, alcohol/alcohol use, sexual activity, or criminal activity.

Students who have not met 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 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 which they have at 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.
 - Borrowing an article of clothing from a friend that is in alignment with the standard.
- Where possible, students should not be required to wear school owned replacement garments and should never be required to wear specific garments as a disciplinary measure.