

Statement of Policy

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools recognizes that we have a responsibility to provide environments where everyone feels valued, safe and has a sense of belonging.

Rationale

Catholic Schools are 'Places of Welcome' where God can be encountered. We strive to create conditions where everyone feels valued, safe, and has a sense of belonging. The intent of developing dress guidelines is to support a respectful and safe environment; it is not meant to be prescriptive or punitive.

Teaching dignity and respect to children and adolescents means awakening in them respect for the human person. Therefore, it is important that dress guidelines be consistent with the inner character qualities that we endeavor to nurture within our students.

We recognize that decisions about dress reflect individual expression, socio-cultural norms, and economic factors, and that they are personal and important elements of a person's well-being. Students have the right to express themselves, feel comfortable and have the freedom to make dress choices. Students have the responsibility to make dress choices that ensure dignity and respect for themselves and for others.

Authority

- Catechism of the Catholic Church

Guidelines

1. Student Dress Guidelines are to be communicated annually to the school community.
2. Certain requirements for student dress may be outlined for safety purposes or specialized activities. Examples of such activities include field trips, play days, PAA courses, art activities and Physical Education. Where students are engaged in Work Experiences, then dress requirements at these locations must be respected.
3. Criteria to be used in discussing Student Dress Guidelines include:
 - dignity and respect for all;
 - age of the students;
 - ability to identify students (i.e., any coverings that obscure the face); and
 - safety considerations.

4. School Dress Guidelines include the following examples of what is inappropriate:
 - clothing or other accessories that promote or symbolize drugs, alcohol, tobacco, illegal activity, racism, violence, sexualized slogans or images, pornography, obscene designs or words;
 - wearing undergarments as outerwear; and
 - gang-related styles or symbols.
5. When there are differences in opinions in terms of student dress appropriateness, all involved have a duty to ensure dignity and respect is maintained.
6. In the case where a student is required to remedy inappropriate dress, a variety of options will be presented that maintains the dignity of the student.

References

Catechism of the Catholic Church 2522, 2524

Date Approved

June 19, 2006

Amended

May 3, 2022