

## Uniform Policy and Dress Code for Grades K-8 (2023-2024)

Appearance tells us a great deal about ourselves. Our school uniform policy encourages students to focus on grooming that presents a positive image of our young people and our school. Neatness, cleanliness, and appropriateness in dress and appearance are conducive to an academic atmosphere. St. Mark School believes there is a correlation between dress and behavior.

### Boys

#### **Pants**

- Navy blue or black dress pants
- **Junior High students only** (Grades 7-8): Junior High may wear dress uniform khaki pants to school as well as navy blue dress pants. Dress pants are defined as traditionally styled pants with inside pockets only, plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. Khaki jeans, form fitting, extremely tight fitting, or excessively large or long pants are not permitted. For comparison purposes, many Dockers style pants meet these criteria.
- Belts need to be worn if pants have belt loops. Belts must be plain with no designs, oversized belt buckles, or ornamentation.

#### **Shirts**

- Grades K-4: white, pastel blue, **red, light gray** polo shirts\*
- Grades 5-8: white, pastel blue, **red, light gray** polo shirt or white or pastel blue button down shirt\*
- **NO TIES**
- Grades K-8: **solid white undershirts**
- Shirts/polos must be tucked in and not rolled.

\*Polo shirts should be free of any logos or insignias unless it is the school crest, which are offered as an option by both Schoolbelles and J.D. Design.

Please note: We are phasing out the black dress pants, the pastel blue polo shirt and the white or pastel blue button down shirt for boys. These items will be permitted this year, but will not be allowed for the 2024-2025 school year.

### Girls

Grades K-4:

- Red plaid uniform jumper
- **Jumpers may not be shorter than the fingertips in length.**
- Navy blue uniform dress pants Dress pants are defined as traditionally styled pants with inside pockets only, plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. **Khaki jeans, form fitting, hip huggers, low-rise, extremely tight fitting, or excessively large or long pants are not permitted.** For comparison purposes, many Dockers style pants meet these criteria.
- Red plaid uniform pants
- Belts required for any pants with belt loops. Belts must be plain with no designs, oversized belt buckles, or ornamentation.

Shirts:

- White, **red, light gray** polo shirts\*
- Plain collared white blouse tucked in
- Polos should either have a banded bottom or be tucked in
- **Solid white undershirts with sleeves no longer than the polo**

Grades 5-8:

- Red plaid uniform skirt
- Skirts may not be **shorter than the fingertips in length.**
- Navy blue uniform dress pants. Dress pants are defined as traditionally styled pants with inside pockets only, plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. **Khaki jeans, form fitting, hip huggers, low-rise, extremely tight fitting, or excessively large or long pants are not permitted.** For comparison purposes, many Dockers style pants meet these criteria.
- Belts required for any pants with belt loops. Belts must be plain with no designs, oversized belt buckles, or ornamentation.

Shirts:

- Plain white, **red, light gray** banded-bottom polo or tucked in shirt\*
- **Solid white undershirts with no visible logo are acceptable**

**Junior High** students only (Gr. 7-8): Dress uniform khaki or navy pants. Dress pants are defined as traditionally styled pants with inside pockets only, plain or pleated fronts, cuffed or stitched hems, and no contrasting seams or other adornments. **Khaki jeans, form fitting, hip huggers, low-rise, extremely tight fitting, or excessively large or long pants are not permitted.** For comparison purposes, many Dockers style pants meet these criteria.

\*Polo shirts should be free of any logos or insignias unless it is the school crest, which are offered as an option by both Schoolbelles and J.D. Design.

### **Boys and Girls Shorts Uniform**

- Navy blue walking shorts/skorts (not short shorts) are permitted for students in Grades K-8 beginning August to October 31<sup>st</sup> and from April 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of the year. Shorts with leg pockets or ornamentation may not be worn. When shorts are worn, they are not to be shorter than fingertips in length.
- Students in Gr. 7-8 may wear khaki or navy walking shorts
- White or pastel blue dress shirt or white, **red, light gray** polo
- Banded bottoms or tucked in shirts
- Ties are not required
- **Any time shorts are worn to school (uniform, field trips, special dress down days etc.), they may not be any shorter than the fingertips in length.**

### **Footwear**

**Shoes**

- **School style dress shoes or tennis shoes may be worn with the uniform. Shoes must be supportive and enclose the whole foot. Tennis shoes must be primarily white or black. (Example: no primary/neon colors; flashing lights)**
- Sperry Top-siders or other similar styles in leather or canvas are permitted
- **Not Permitted:** Ballerina-style shoes, moccasins, slipper-style, crocs, sandals, flip-flops, slingbacks, **high top tennis shoes, mid-top basketball type shoes**, high heel, workboot, or other “fashion shoes.”
- All shoes must be properly laced and tied.
- Shoes worn as boots in inclement weather must be changed before entering the classroom.

### **Socks**

- Socks must be **solid** white, black, or blue crew socks. A small logo (example, Nike check) is permitted. Socks must be visible.
- Girls may wear white, black, or navy tights. In addition, girls may wear **solid black full-length leggings, with no markings or designs**, along with school appropriate socks. Sweatpants or “pajama style” pants are not to be worn under the uniform during the school day.

### **Sweaters/ Sweatshirts**

- Cardigan or pullover  
Solid navy, dark red, black

Please note: We are phasing out gray and white sweaters (cardigan or pullover.) These items will be permitted this year, but will not be allowed for the 2024-2025 school year.

- Sweatshirt  
Official St. Mark sweatshirt (red/gray) purchased through *Schoolbelles*  
St. Mark approved sweatshirts purchased through *J.D. Design*  
*stmarkuniforms@gmail.com*  
**All other St. Mark sweatshirts may only be worn on Spirit Wear days.**
- St. Mark fleece quarter zip (red/gray) purchased in previous years
- St. Mark quarter zip dry fit (gray, red, black) purchased in previous years
- **Hooded sweatshirts are not permitted to be worn in school**
- No logos or insignias (other than school logos)
- Outerwear such as winter coats, jackets, jacket vests, unapproved sweatshirts, hats, baseball caps, are not to be worn during the school day.

### **Hair**

Students will have simple, neat and conservative hairstyles that are consistent with the tailored appearance of the school uniform. No unusual fads or designs may be worn. Students are expected to adhere to the following:

- **Hair dye/highlights are permitted. Highlights must be a natural color.** Example: Natural color does NOT include blue, pink, unnatural red, yellow, green, orange etc. Hair must be clean and neatly styled and may not obstruct vision.
- **Shaved heads are permitted.** Designs, ridges, or words are not permitted.
- Excessively teased, spiked, mohawk, or unkempt hair is not permitted.
- **Haircuts for boys should be above their eyebrows and collars and no higher than 3 inches above the scalp. Hair must not cover the eyes**
- Facial hair is not permitted. Hairbraids are permitted.

**Any student not in compliance will be issued a uniform infraction demerit and one weekend for compliance, or he/she will not be permitted to return to school until the situation is corrected. This will be strictly enforced.**

### **Headbands**

- **Accessories that may be distracting are not permitted. This includes: large headbands, scarves, bandanas and large floral ornamentations**
- Solid color black, blue, white, red, gray, or the uniform plaid may be worn
- Headbands must be flat, except on special “Spirit” days
- Girls may wear small headbands and ponytail holders
- Ponytail holders are not to be worn as “bracelets”

### **Make-up, Jewelry and Cosmetics**

Girls (Gr. 7-8 only)

- “Light make-up” is permitted for school wear.
- Only clear, light pink, natural tan nail polish is allowed with nails properly maintained. Artificial nails are not permitted.
- Girls in all grades may wear **one pair** of small post earrings on the earlobes.
- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.
- A simple watch may be worn. **Apple watches and any other Smart watch that has technology and the capability to email, text etc. are NOT permitted.**
- A simple chain necklace may be worn.
- All jewelry must be school appropriate.
- Only one bracelet and one ring per hand may be worn.
- Daily use of deodorant is expected for all students in Grades 4-8.
- Cologne and perfume is not permitted due to allergies.
- Tattoos of any nature, whether temporary or permanent, are not acceptable.

Failure to comply with the uniform policy will result in disciplinary action. The decision of the administration is final.

### **Physical Education Uniform**

#### **Students in Gr. K-6**

- Students will wear their P.E. uniforms to school on their assigned P.E. days .

#### **Students in Gr. 7-8**

- Students will use the locker rooms to change into their P.E. uniform.
- Students in Grades 7-8 need a gym bag for shoes and/or clothing.

#### **Uniform Wear Requirements**

- **The P.E. shorts uniform may be worn August through October 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of the school year. On cold inclement days, sweatpants may be worn in place of shorts. Shorts may not run shorter than the fingertips in length.**
- **The P.E. sweatpants uniform will be worn November 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> Uniform Requirements for all.**
- The P.E. uniform may be purchased through Schoolbelles or J.D.Designs.
- The uniform includes: red micromesh shorts, oxford gray dry blend crew neck t-shirt, oxford gray long sleeve t-shirt, red or oxford gray fleece sweatpants, and a red or oxford gray long sleeve pullover fleece sweatshirt. Shorts are not to be shorter than the fingertips in length.
- **All P.E uniform pieces have the official St. Mark logo.**
- Athletic shoes are to be properly laced and tied. Please consider using tennis shoes with non-marking soles.

- Students may wear compression shorts under gym shorts as long as the compression shorts are not visible.

Uniform attire may be purchased from:

Schoolbelles, Inc. - 4747 West 160th Street [\(888\) 637-3037](tel:8886373037)

J. D. Designs - [stmarkuniforms@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkuniforms@gmail.com)

Consequences for students not in dress code compliance is as follows:

- Teachers will record the dress code violation as a demerit.
- Parent notification
- An accumulation of five demerits/quarter per quarter for any reason, including dress code violations, will result in a detention.