

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT ATTIRE

Background

The Division supports the establishment and maintenance of clear and acceptable standards for student attire.

Guiding Philosophy

As a Catholic school division, we believe that each person is made in the image and likeness of God, and as such, each individual has inherent dignity. The dignity bestowed on an individual given by God is unconditional and is not determined by earthly possessions, including clothing.

Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools honours the freedom for students to choose attire that reflects their unique personality while adhering to the values of our school division.

This Administrative Procedure serves to provide guidelines by which schools can establish expectations for student attire that reflects and honors the dignity of the human person.

Procedures

Each school in the Division will set Guidelines for Student Attire for their community that align with the following:

1. Students are expected to dress in a manner which allows them to carry out the tasks of the school day or for any school sponsored event. Student attire will be comfortable, allow them to be authentically who they are, and be consistent with the values of the Division.
2. The Principal is delegated responsibility for developing, in consultation with students, staff and the school council, appropriate procedures for establishing acceptable standards of student attire. Standards of attire should not marginalize or discriminate against students and/or staff members based on gender, gender identity or expression, body-type, ability, socio-economic status, ethnicity, culture, religion, age, or race. Standards of attire must be respectful of individual expression and the role that parents have in supporting the decisions about their child's attire.
 - 2.1. Each guideline should describe what appropriate dress looks like and the principles behind the guideline so that students understand the principles and can make appropriate choices.

- 2.2. Student attire should be appropriate to the occasion and weather, and regulations should be sufficiently flexible to accommodate some variation in conditions.
 - 2.3. Students are required to wear proper footwear that is safe and appropriate for the activity.
 - 2.4. Student dress must maintain personal safety and the safety of the school community.
 - 2.5. Students are not permitted to wear articles of clothing, jewelry 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.
 - 2.6. Students are not permitted to wear articles of clothing that display or reference symbols or words of hate and discrimination that contradict the Division's values of respecting diversity and fostering a sense of belonging.
 - 2.7. Students are not permitted to wear articles of clothing that display or reference alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia or other illegal conduct or activities that contradict the Division's commitment to safe and healthy school environments.
 - 2.8. Underwear or swimwear must not be worn as outerwear, and buttocks and nipples must be covered with opaque fabric and remain so during all activities over the course of the school day.
3. The Principal is delegated responsibility for informing students and parents regarding acceptable standards of attire for students at their school.
 4. Each school's Guidelines for Student Attire will clearly outline the restorative steps that a student who is non-compliant with the guidelines must take to return to their normal activities. The principal has the authority to require a student who is not meeting acceptable standards of attire to change before being re-admitted to class. The principal will notify parents/guardians in these instances.
 5. For vocational, industrial education and other similar classes, students must meet the requirements of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations of Alberta Labour* with particular attention to the general conduct and prevention regulations related to:
 - 5.1. Protective headgear
 - 5.2. Eye protection
 - 5.3. Footwear
 - 5.4. Clothing
 - 5.5. Head and facial hair
 - 5.6. Dangling neckwear and jewelry
 - 5.7. Hand protection