



## Dress Code

St. Mary's Academy seeks to maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to the highest quality of academic pursuit and respect of self and others. The following guidelines are in effect at all times while on campus, during digital learning sessions, or while participating in school-sponsored trips and events:

- Shirts and pants or skirts must overlap enough to provide coverage of the midriff and back when arms are raised above the head. Leggings may be worn but they can't be see-through.
- Sleeveless tops may be worn if they provide enough coverage for SMA guidelines. Halter-tops, tube tops, one-shoulder tops, and off-the-shoulder tops are not acceptable. Sheer blouses are acceptable if worn over an opaque layer. The straps of tank tops may be no less than three inches wide. In addition, the neckline is to be no lower than two inches from the top of the collarbone (two inches is approximately three fingers). The back of the top should provide enough coverage that skin is not visible.
- Shorts must be within six inches of the top of the knee; skirts and dresses must be within two inches. Tops, dresses, and skirts worn over tights must be within two inches of the top of the knee. Slits in skirts may not extend more than two inches from the top of the knee. Opaque tights must be worn with any skirt that might appear shorter than the dress code allows.
- Athletic shorts, exercise pants, biking pants, workout pants, and spandex may be worn at the discretion of the instructor for PE, strength and conditioning, dance, and athletic practice, but are not appropriate for school. Yoga pants are acceptable as long as they are moderate-to-loose fitting and opaque. Tights may not be worn without a tunic-length top that covers both the front and the back.
- No boxer shorts, pajama bottoms, or pants in the style of pajama bottoms may be worn to school. Writing on clothing must be appropriate for the SMA school environment. No writing, logos, or designs are allowed on the seat of shorts, pants, sweats, etc.
- Clothing should be school ready and in good repair with no frayed ends, tears or holes.
- Shoes must be worn. Students are encouraged to choose shoes that are appropriate for climbing stairs.
- Days of all-school liturgies and other special occasions are designated as dress-up days. These are school days where a more formal appearance is expected of students out of respect for the special purpose of the day.
- Students who represent the school in a voluntary activity may be required to meet additional dress and grooming standards.

### Dress Code for Dances

- Informal dances are those held at school. The dress code for these is the same as listed above. Tasteful and respectful dress are the two guiding principles for formal dances.

**Please Note: St. Mary's Administration retains the right to interpret the dress code.** The second dress code violation results in a 30 minute detention. The third dress code violation and beyond will require the student serve a 60 minute detention. A serious dress code violation may require a student to wear clothing provided by the school until the school day ends.