ST VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SEWARD, NE

* UNIFORM POLICY

At St. Vincent de Paul School, our uniform is an important part of our Catholic identity. Wearing a uniform helps create a respectful learning environment, promotes modesty, encourages school pride, and reminds us that each person is valued as a beloved child of God. Uniforms also help students focus on learning, foster a sense of belonging, and simplify daily routines for families.

Where to Purchase Uniforms – Most uniform items—including pants, shorts, and polo shirts—may be purchased from retailers such as Old Navy, Walmart, Target, or through the Dickies website. Please use the guidelines below when selecting uniform clothing.

Daily Uniform Requirements

Girls

Jumpers, Skirts, and Skorts (skirt with built-in shorts)

- St. Vincent de Paul School plaid jumper, skirt, or skort.
- Dark, solid-colored shorts must be worn underneath.
- Length should be no shorter than two finger-widths above the knee.

Pants

- Navy blue or khaki twill uniform pants.
- Straight-leg, pleated, or flat-front styles are acceptable.
- Denim, cargo pants, leggings worn as pants, low-rise styles, decorative stitching, holes, tears, or excessively tight or baggy styles are not permitted.

Boys

Pants

- Navy blue or khaki twill uniform pants.
- Straight-leg, pleated, or flat-front styles are acceptable.
- Denim, cargo pants, decorative stitching, holes, tears, or excessively tight or baggy styles are not permitted.

Shorts (Boys and Girls)

- Navy blue or khaki uniform walking shorts.
- May be worn from the beginning of school through October 31 and from March 1 through the end of the school year, weather permitting.
- Shorts should be no shorter than approximately three inches above the knee.

Shirts, Sweatshirts, and Sweaters

Shirts

Students may wear:

- Plain white, navy, or red polo shirts (short or long sleeves)
- Girls: white blouses with a plain or Peter Pan collar
- Boys: white Oxford shirts

Shirts must:

- Have a traditional turn-down collar
- Be tucked in during the school day (except during P.E. and recess)
- Be free of decorative trim or logos

Undershirts must be solid white and free of pictures, patterns, or logos.

Sweatshirts

- Approved St. Vincent de Paul navy uniform sweatshirt with the school logo.
- A uniform shirt must be worn underneath.

Sweaters

- Solid navy, white, or red cardigan.
- No decorative logos, monograms, or hoods.

*** Please note:** Our former uniform provider is no longer in business. A uniform committee is working to identify a new supplier for plaid jumpers, skirts, and other approved uniform items. Current plaid uniforms and previously-approved sweatshirts will continue to be accepted during the transition period. Beginning with the 2028–2029 school year, only the newly approved plaid and navy logo sweatshirt will be part of the official uniform

Belts – Belts are optional. If worn, they should be solid black, brown, or navy.

Shoes – Students should wear comfortable, safe shoes with non-marking soles.
Acceptable shoes include:

- Athletic shoes
- Dress shoes

Not permitted:

- Crocs
- Sandals
- Backless shoes
- Clogs
- Boots (except snow boots worn outdoors during winter recess)
- Shoes with slick soles

Students should wear tennis shoes on Physical Education days.

Socks, Tights & Leggings – Socks or tights must be worn at all times.

- Socks should be solid white, navy, or black and visible above the shoe.
- Tights should be solid navy or black.
- Ankle-length leggings may be worn under skirts or jumpers and must be solid navy or black.

Jewelry & Makeup – Students are encouraged to keep jewelry simple and appropriate for school.
Permitted:

- Religious medals, necklaces, bracelets, pins, or scapulars
- Girls may wear one pair of small earrings (no hoops or dangling earrings)

Makeup is not permitted.

Hair – Hair should be clean, neatly groomed, and a natural color. Hair should:

- Be kept out of the eyes.
- Avoid extreme styles or shaved designs.

Girls may wear simple hair accessories such as bows, headbands, clips, barrettes, scrunchies, and ribbons. Oversized or distracting accessories are not permitted.
Boys' hair should remain above the eyebrows, ears, and shirt collar.

Watches & Electronic Devices – Students may wear analog or simple digital watches. Cell phones and smart watches are not permitted during the school day unless prior approval has been given by the administration because of a special circumstance.

General Expectations

To help students look and feel their best, we ask families to remember the following:

- Uniforms should be clean, neat, and in good repair.
- Please label coats, jackets, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, and snow gear with your child's name.
- Hats should not be worn inside the school building during the school day.
- Temporary tattoos and drawings on skin are not appropriate for school.
- Families are encouraged to support good personal hygiene and appropriate undergarments.
- Please ensure students wear tennis shoes on Physical Education days.

Used uniforms in good condition may be donated to the school office for our Used Uniform Closet. Families are welcome to purchase gently used uniforms as they are available.

Uniform Questions – We understand that purchasing uniforms can sometimes raise questions. If you are uncertain whether a clothing item meets the dress code, please contact the school office before your child wears it to school. We are happy to help.

Spirit Day Spirit Wear

Spirit Days are a fun monthly opportunity for students to celebrate our Firehawk community while practicing stewardship by supporting missions and those in need. On designated Spirit Days, students may wear approved Spirit Wear in place of their regular school uniform.

Students may wear:

- An approved Spirit shirt (see below)
- Jeans or uniform bottoms
- Jean shorts (during shorts season)
- Jean skirts that meet the regular length requirements
- Overalls

Approved Spirit shirts include t-shirts and tops displaying:

- the Firehawk logo
- Catholic messages
- Bible verses
- Christian symbols

Students are asked to bring a **25¢ donation**, which is used to support missions or those in need.

Students in Kindergarten through Grade 4 are expected to follow the uniform guidelines above. If you are unsure whether a clothing item meets the dress code, please contact the school office before your child wears it to school. The administration reserves the right to make final decisions regarding attire that is not specifically addressed in this policy.

Firehawk Tip – When in doubt, choose simple, classic styles. Our goal is for students to feel comfortable, confident, and ready to learn while reflecting the values of our Catholic school community.