

Monsignor Fee Otterson

Standard of Student Dress 2026-27



Philosophy

In Edmonton Catholic Schools, students are expected to dress in a manner that honors the dignity of the human person, who is created in the image of God. Student dress should support an **inclusive, welcoming, caring, respectful, safe, and Catholic learning environment** that promotes the wellbeing of all.

Each school within the Division maintains its own Standard of Student Dress for its community. As it is not possible to list every acceptable or unacceptable item of clothing, this standard is designed to **empower students to make appropriate choices**. Students are expected to dress appropriately for the school day and for any school-sponsored event.

All students shall come to school dressed in a comfortable manner that allows them to be authentically who they are, while meeting the expectations outlined in this document. Students who do not meet these standards will be required by the principal or designate to bring their attire into alignment **before participating in school activities**. Schools will support students in meeting these expectations whenever possible.

Required Student Attire

Students at Monsignor Fee Otterson must wear:

- A **shirt (or equivalent top)** with fabric not allowing underwear to be exposed
- **Pants (or equivalent bottoms)** with fabric not allowing underwear to be exposed
- **Shoes**

Note: Certain courses or activities may require specific attire for safety or curriculum purposes (e.g., CTF/CTS, Physical Education, science labs, field trips).

Permitted Attire

Students may wear the following, provided they align with the philosophy of this standard:

- **Religious or medical headwear**, including items such as a hijab, yarmulke, or turban (in consultation with administration if necessary)
 - **Hats and headwear**, provided:
 - The face remains visible to staff
 - They do not obstruct sightlines of others
 - Hoodies, if the hood portion is not covering any part of the students head and face
 - **Clothing with logos or text** that:
 - Promotes positivity
 - Is respectful in nature
 - Encourages healthy lifestyle choices
-

Non-Permitted Attire

Students may not wear:

- Clothing, jewelry, or accessories that:
 - Suggest affiliation with groups that do not support a **welcoming, safe, and respectful Catholic environment**
 - Clothing that:
 - Discriminates based on age, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, body type, race, ability, or socio-economic status
 - Clothing with words, images, or symbols that depict or imply:
 - Hate or violence
 - Profanity
 - Drug or alcohol use
 - Sexual activity
 - Criminal activity
-

Addressing Dress Code Concerns

If a student does not meet the standard, the following process will be followed:

1. Respectful Conversation

- A staff member will speak with the student **privately and respectfully** at the earliest opportunity
- Care will be taken to preserve the student's **dignity and privacy**
- Language that may shame or express bias will be avoided

2. Providing Options

Students will be supported in bringing their attire into alignment through options such as:

- Changing into another appropriate item of their own clothing (if available at school)
- Contacting a parent or guardian to bring suitable clothing
- Borrowing appropriate clothing from a peer

3. Additional Considerations

- Students should **not be required to wear school-owned replacement garments** whenever possible
- Students will **never be required to wear specific clothing as a disciplinary measure**

Commitment to a Respectful Community

This standard exists to ensure that all students feel **safe, respected, included, and valued** within the Monsignor Fee Otterson school community.

Together, we foster an environment where every individual can learn and grow with dignity.