

Uniform Guidelines

Updated 2023-24

Principles

The St. Thomas More Academy uniforms are designed to promote the principles of modesty and dignity. The dress code was created with the goal of providing a learning environment free of distractions while enabling all of our students to work and play freely. Students should also keep in mind that they will be attending Holy Mass every day and should dress with proper respect accordingly.

Provider

We have contracted with Sports Image Apparel to be our primary uniform provider. **All items with logos, with the exception of Upper School blazers, must be purchased through them. Our logo is no longer available to be embroidered on items purchased elsewhere.** Old uniform items will be grandfathered in for next year.

Sports Image Apparel: <u>Uniform Store including new gym uniforms</u>

Lower School Jumpers: French Toast

Upper School ties and optional blazers: Lands End. Our school code is 900194267.

Note on Logo/Crest

All shirts, sweaters, and blazers will be required to have a logo beginning with the 2023-24 school year. The only exception to this is girls wearing jumpers where the logo on the shirt is not visible.

Why are we requiring shirts with our logo/crest?

We have uniforms at STMA both to cultivate an environment of order within which our students can work at their best, and also to foster our unity as a community. As Catholics, we know that signs and symbols matter. Since we are embodied human beings, we need visible signs of invisible realities. Our unity as a school community is very real, but it is invisible. It is fostered in a myriad of ways, but as medieval guilds, sports teams, and many other schools understand, wearing insignia that represent the community's unity is one of the best ways to foster that unity. Unlike the other aspects of our uniform, the crest directly symbolizes our mission and links us to our patron.

Our STMA crest shares the same basic shape as St. Thomas More's coat of arms: a chevron on a shield with three figures. The shield is blue (azure), which in heraldry represents truth and loyalty, natural virtues which More exemplified and which we wish our students to emulate. The chevron is gold, which represents glory and faith. One can think of the gold superimposed on the blue as the theological virtues building upon the natural human virtues. The owl is, naturally, a symbol of wisdom and learning, making it appropriate for the crest of a school. The rose has several meanings. First, it was part of St. Thomas' own coat of arms. Second, the white rose symbolizes purity, while the red rose symbolizes martyrdom. When placed one on top of the other, they become known as the "Tudor rose", which is strongly associated with England, but is also a symbol of Mary.

General Guidelines for Uniforms

All items must be purchased through Sports Image Apparel unless noted otherwise. Our logo is no longer available to be embroidered on items purchased elsewhere.

Girls

Lower School (K-5)

Jumpers - V-Neck pleated plaid in blue - gold plaid. May be purchased at French Toast.

Pants - Navy blue, may be purchased anywhere - no skinny styles.

Shorts - Navy blue, may be purchased anywhere - no excessively short or long styles. May be worn until October break and after Easter Break.

Shirts - White or Gray, short or long sleeve, polo shirts, logo required unless worn under a jumper. Shirts must be tucked in.

Belts - Black, brown, or navy - must be worn with shorts or pants. Kindergarten is excused from this requirement.

Tights/Leggings/Socks - Crew or knee length socks in navy, black, or white. Navy, black, or white tights or leggings may be worn under jumpers. Black leggings may not have cut out designs.

Shoes - Navy, brown, or black leather shoes in a Mary Jane or lace up style or solid black gym shoes (no colorful logos or soles). No boots, booties, high tops, sandals, or open back shoes. **Sweater** - Optional - Grey cardigan, logo required.

Middle and Upper School (6-12)

Skirts - Navy blue (purchased through Sports Image Apparel)

Pants, Shorts - Same as in Lower School

Shirts - White or french blue oxford cloth button down shirts, logo required

Belts - Same as above

Tights/Leggings/Socks - Same as above

Shoes - Same as above

Sweater - Same as above

Tie - Optional - Navy blue cross tie from Lands' End. May be purchased elsewhere, but must be the same style.

High School Blazer - Optional - Gray Hopsack Blazer from Lands' End, logo required.

Boys

Lower School (K-5)

Pants - Navy blue full length chino style, may be purchased anywhere.

Shorts - Navy blue chino shorts, may be purchased anywhere - no excessively long or short styles. May be worn until October Break and after Easter break.

Shirts - White or gray, short or long sleeve, polo shirts, logo required, must be tucked in.

Belt - Black, brown, or navy - must be worn with shorts or pants. Kindergarten is excused from this requirement.

Socks - White or black plain crew length socks.

Shoes - Brown or black lace up shoes, slip on loafers or solid black gym shoes (no colorful logos or soles). No boots, booties, high tops, sandals, or open back shoes.

Sweater - Optional - Gray V-neck sweater, logo required.

Middle and Upper School (6-12)

Pants - Same as above

Shorts - Same as above

Shirts - White or French blue oxford cloth button down shirts, logo required.

Tie - Required - Lands' End school uniform "Striped to be tied" in navy/gold. May be purchased elsewhere, but must be the same style.

Belt - Same as above

Socks - Same as above

Shoes - Same as above

Sweater - Same as above

High School Blazer - Optional - Gray Hopsack Blazer from Lands' End, logo required.

All Students

Hair - must be neat and kept out of the face. It may not be an unnatural color. Boys must keep their hair cut above their collar and over their ears. Girls may wear black, gray, white, or navy blue bows, scrunchies, or headbands.

Jewelry - Girls may wear one pair of stud earrings. Any student may wear a wristwatch and a cross or medal around their neck. No other jewelry may be worn.

Gym Uniforms - Blue t-shirt, blue shorts, blue sweatshirt, and blue sweatpants with STM shield from Sports Image Apparel. These will be required for the 2024-2025 school year. Please do not purchase anymore gear from Logo Boys. Students may wear non-black gym shoes on gym days, but no high tops.