

PRESENTATION OF MARY ACADEMY UNIFORM POLICY

PMA is a private Catholic school. Emphasis is placed on education in the academic, spiritual and emotional domains. The uniform for students in grades Pre-K–8 was established to support a **commitment to simplicity, neatness and lack of competition in the area of dress**. Uniforms must fit properly and be worn appropriately each day. Students who are not in proper uniform will be asked to contact their parents to obtain proper uniform clothing or will be required to borrow available uniform clothing from the Uniform Consignment Closet. Repeated violations to the uniform policy will result in the loss of “dress-down” privileges and/or after school detentions.

Since one of the goals of the uniform is to discourage peer pressure connected to style and popular name labels, it is essential that all students adhere to the requirements of the uniform policy. Please be mindful of the fact that PMA has a true uniform as opposed to a dress code. The uniform is very specific. We pay close attention to adherence of the uniform guidelines. This is part of who we are as a school. It works best when we are partners in supporting these guidelines.

It is important that all students adhere to the school’s conservative policy on dress. If anyone is not certain about the appropriateness or acceptability of clothing, jewelry, or hairstyle, he/she should consult with the Assistant Principal before spending money in these areas. Not doing so may result in an unnecessary expense. Please go to the Education Outfitters website for more information about the school uniform.

<http://www.educationaloutfitters.com/SchoolStore.aspx?SchoolCode=NH0922&Schoolid=923>

GIRLS’ PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN UNIFORM

- Gray uniform pants with pull-up elastic waist **OR**
- Gray/maroon plaid jumper, hemmed to the knee.
- Maroon or white polo shirt with PMA logo **OR**
- Peter Pan collar, solid white blouse, long or short sleeves.
- Maroon knee-high socks, or tights for the girls when wearing jumper.
- Privacy shorts when wearing a jumper.
- Uniform necktie for the girls (optional).
- Black shoes.

GIRLS’ UNIFORM, GRADES 1 – 4 (NOVEMBER 1-MARCH 31)

- Gray/Maroon plaid jumper, hemmed to the knee.
- Peter Pan collar, solid white blouse, long or short sleeves.
- Maroon long sleeved cardigan sweater with PMA logo (optional).
- Maroon knee-length stockings or tights.
- Privacy shorts when wearing a jumper.
- Uniform necktie for the girls (optional).
- Black shoes.
- Gray uniform pants, purchased through the uniform company, may be worn in place of the jumper.
- Girls in grades 1-4 must wear a uniform sweater with the pants.

GIRLS’ UNIFORM, GRADES 5 – 8 (NOVEMBER 1-MARCH 31)

- Gray/Maroon plaid skirt. Skirt must be hemmed to the knee.
- White blouse with pointed collar, long or short sleeves. Blouse must be worn tucked into skirt at all times.
- Maroon sleeveless vest, V-neck sweater or cardigan with logo is mandatory.
- Girls in Gr. 6-8, blazers are mandatory for Special Occasions and when deemed necessary by the Principal.
- Maroon knee-length stockings or tights.
- Black shoes.
- Gray uniform pants, purchased through the uniform company, may be worn in place of the skirt.
- Girls in grades 5-8 must wear the uniform vest or cardigan with the pants.

GIRLS’ WARM WEATHER UNIFORM OPTIONAL (APRIL 1 – OCTOBER 31)

- White blouse may be replaced by a white or maroon short-sleeved polo shirt with PMA logo. No vest or sweater is necessary.
- Grades 1-4 wear the polo shirt under their jumper. Grades 5-8 wear polo shirt tucked into skirt.
- Plain, white ankle socks may be worn during this time. Socks should cover the entire ankle. ***Peds, sports socks or socks that do not cover the ankle are unacceptable.***

BOYS' PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN UNIFORM

- Gray uniform pants with pull-up elastic waist.
- Maroon or white polo shirt with PMA logo.
- Sweater with PMA logo (optional).
- White, black or gray ankle socks with pants. Socks should cover the entire ankle.
- Black shoes.

BOYS' UNIFORM, GRADES 1 – 8 (NOVEMBER 1-MARCH 31)

- Boys in Gr. 1-4, gray pleated uniform pants purchased through the uniform company.
- Boys in Gr. 5-8, dark gray pleated uniform pants purchased through the uniform company.
- Black leather belt to be worn at all times with the pants.
- Plain, white oxford shirt, long or short sleeves, tucked in the pants at all times.
- Boys in grades 1-5 are required to wear a maroon necktie at all times with the uniform shirt.
- Boys in grades 6-8 may wear either a tie or bow tie of their choice.
- Socks, plain, white, black or gray, must cover the entire ankle.
- Maroon long-sleeved V-neck sweater or sweater vest with PMA logo (optional).
- Boys in Gr. 6-8, blazers are mandatory for Special Occasions and when deemed necessary by the Principal.
- Black shoes.

BOYS' WARM WEATHER UNIFORM OPTIONAL (APRIL 1 – OCTOBER 31)

- The oxford shirt may be replaced by a white or maroon short-sleeved polo shirt with PMA logo.
- The polo shirt must be worn tucked into pants. No necktie needed with the polo shirt.
- Gray uniform shorts may be worn. The shorts need to be purchased exclusively through the uniform company.
- Black leather belt to be worn at all times with the shorts.

SHOES

Shoes should be safe and comfortable. Please keep in mind that students in grades 2-8 travel through three flights of stairs on a daily basis. When shopping for shoes, please keep the following in mind:

- sturdy, soft sole black shoes;
- closed fronts and backs with no “platform” style heels or soles;
- safety strap across the top of the shoe highly recommended (Mary Jane type of shoe);
- shoes not to exceed a one-inch heel for all students;
- boots for outside use *only*;
- no sneakers, except on gym day.

DRESS UNIFORM FOR FORMAL OCCASIONS (school liturgies, special guests and formal occasions) FOR ALL STUDENTS, GRADES 1-8

- BOYS: Grades 1-5, white oxford shirt, gray uniform pants, and maroon necktie. No shorts.
- BOYS: Grades 6-8, white oxford shirt, dark gray uniform pants, and a tie that matches uniform (maroon and/or gray combination). No shorts.
- GIRLS: Grades 1-8, white blouse with jumper/skirt.
- GIRLS: Grade 5 must wear the PMA sleeveless vest or sweater.
- BOYS/GIRLS: Grade 6 - 8 must wear their blazer. GIRLS do not have to wear the vest/sweater under their blazer.
- If students have mass on a gym day, the gym uniform is worn with pants. No shorts are allowed.

GYM UNIFORM FOR ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES PRE-K - 8

On “gym day” students must come to school dressed for physical education class. The gym uniform is purchased through the uniform company only.

The uniform dress for physical education classes consists of:

- Maroon T-shirt with PMA logo (short or long sleeves).
- Maroon fleece or mesh shorts with PMA logo. (Shorts must be hemmed.)
- Maroon sweatshirt with PMA logo (optional).
- Maroon sweatpants with PMA logo. (Wind-pants for grades 5-8 only. The wind-pants are no longer an option however, are acceptable for those who have bought them previously.)
- Sneakers (plain, sturdy, Velcro or tie) and socks are required. Sneakers with shoelaces must be tied at all times. Sneakers should not be distracting, such as having lights, roller blades, noisemakers, etc. built into them.

IMPORTANT PMA SPIRIT WEAR POLICY

Students are not allowed to wear PMA spirit wear or sports uniforms as a substitute for the gym uniform.

PMA SPIRIT WEAR

Throughout the year, parents may purchase various spirit wear clothing and articles through the athletic program or through Educational Outfitters. We strongly encourage the students to wear spirit wear at appropriate school functions, sporting events, dress-down days, as outer wear to and from school, and on special designated “spirit wear” days that may occur throughout the year at school. Spirit wear is not a replacement for any part of the school uniform or the gym uniform.

DRESS-UP DAYS

Dress-up days will be called on rare or special occasions at the discretion of the Principal. The students’ appearance must be neat and clothing must fit properly. Options for dress-up day include:

- GIRLS-Dress blouses or shirts may be worn with skirts and dress pants or conservative dresses.
- Footwear must be appropriate as outlined above.
- BOYS-Dress shirts with collars may be worn with dress pants. Ties and jackets are optional.

DRESS-DOWN DAYS

On days when uniforms are not required, PMA students should not wear any type of clothing or grooming which is inappropriate for a Catholic school. This includes spandex and other tightfitting clothes, leggings, shirts advertising brand names with ads or other writing, camisoles, pajama bottoms, tank tops, shirts with spaghetti straps, extra short skirts or shorts, halter tops, sun dresses, and torn clothing. Skirts and shorts should be near knee length. Flip-flops, sandals, slippers, and boots are never allowed. **No bare midriffs or low-cut tops.** Dress-down days are not about “marketing” the latest style, fashion, or brand name. Students do not have to participate in the dress down day, if they are not comfortable adhering to the dress down code. The PMA uniform is always acceptable.

CAMOUFLAGE CLOTHING

Camouflage clothing or any military-type clothing, including jackets and hats/caps, is not considered appropriate at this school and may not be worn.

HATS

Hats of any kind are not to be worn in the school building by either boys or girls, except for medical or religious reasons.

HAIR

- Hair should be kept clean, neatly groomed and out of the eyes.
- Hairstyles should be simple. Faddish and distracting hairstyles are inappropriate for any student.
- Boys' hair should be kept short around the face, and bangs must be above the eyebrows. Boys' hair should be above the collar and without sideburns, tails, or sculpturing.
- Girls' bangs must be above the eyebrows, or hair must be secured away from the face.
- **Hair must be a natural color. Streaking, highlighting, lowlights, glints, etc. are not permitted.**

Students who disregard haircut or hair color guidelines may be subject to suspension or be required to dye the hair back to its natural color or to cut it to regulation guidelines.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

Practices including tattooing, body painting and body piercing undermine the school's commitment to simplicity and lack of competition in the area of dress and are forbidden.

- Jewelry must be limited to one simple necklace, bracelet and/or ring, and be conservative in nature.
- Pierced ears should be limited to one pair of small, simple stud earrings.
- Boys are not allowed to wear earrings. Necklaces must be under the shirt and tie.
- Make-up, glitter, extra large or gaudy hairclips or headbands, distracting hairstyles and fads, and colored nail polish are not permitted at PMA for all age groups.

UNIFORM ACCESSORIES

Numerous uniform accessories are available through the uniform company that complement the school uniform such as bows, ribbons, socks with frills, lunch boxes, backpacks etc. Parents are under no obligation to purchase accessories.

If a student has a legitimate reason for being out of uniform, he/she must bring a note from a parent or guardian explaining the situation.

CONSEQUENCES FOR UNIFORM VIOLATIONS

Failure to follow the uniform policy will be tracked by the teachers. Infractions of the dress code policy are dealt with in the following manner. Students in Grades 1-3 will be referred to the Assistant Principal. Students in grades 4-8 will be issued a uniform violation notice. After the second uniform violation a teacher detention is issued. The child will be asked to change into a school uniform from the consignment closet.

LABEL CLOTHING

Please mark all clothing, sneakers, mittens and coats with students' names, as well as lunch boxes and backpacks.