



Mother of Sorrows School

Uniform Dress Code

By choosing to attend Mother of Sorrows School (MOSS), you have made a serious commitment to Catholic education. We believe that the public image of our school stems directly from the appearance and conduct of our students, thus, parents and students accept the school uniform as an integral part of the school community life. We believe that the school uniform will:

- Enable students to focus on their schoolwork.
- Instill a sense of discipline through school dress requirements.
- Reduce peer pressure over preferred forms and items of dress.

Though we recognize our individuality, the uniform at MOSS is part of what unites us as one community.

MOSS has a traditional uniform policy that includes a **Dress Uniform** and a selection of looks for the **Everyday Uniform**. The Dress Uniform provides a tailored look that represents the student body in a very positive light in and out of the school community life. When students attend Mass, they are required to wear their Dress Uniform (Mass days are noted on the school calendar). The Dress Uniform *may* also be required for students attending off-campus field trips. Specific attire requirements for field trips will be given on the permission slip that will come home with the students. On any other normal school day, students may choose a more casual look from the Everyday Uniform collection.

A **Physical Education Uniform** is required for gr. 5-8 and must be worn to school on the day the student has physical education in their schedule. Students in grades K-4 have the option to purchase the physical education uniform, but it is not mandatory until gr. 5.

The Physical Education Uniform consists of a Red T-Shirt MOSS Crest, Navy Shorts with MOSS Print (can be worn alone from Aug-Nov. and March-June), and Navy Pants with MOSS Print (must be worn Dec. – Feb.). Optional: A Navy Zip-Up Jacket with MOSS Crest. Tennis shoes must accompany the Physical Education uniform.

The MOSS Physical Education uniform MUST be ordered through the MOSS main office. You can place your order by using the attached form or emailing your order to Lisa Dininno at ldininno@mosschool.org

Physical Education uniforms are paid for through FACTS Incidental Billing once uniforms are distributed.

Occasionally, students will be granted the privilege of a “Dress-Down Day”. On Dress-Down Days, students are allowed to wear the clothing of their choosing. Students are sometimes asked to dress to a specific theme or color. In making that clothing choice, please keep in mind that all non-uniform clothing worn at the school or a school event that contains a message, picture, or logo, must present a positive image acceptable in the Catholic, Christian MOSS Community. The administration has the right to determine any article of clothing to be unacceptable and in those cases; students will be asked to change.

Grades K-8: If a student is “out of uniform,” parents will be notified and expected to remedy the situation. Continued violation of the dress code will be considered parental non-compliance with school policies and appropriate action is taken.

DRESS UNIFORM & EVERYDAY UNIFORM DESCRIPTIONS

There are two basic required uniform collections. Below is an outline of those two looks and appropriate times for each. The two collections are the **Dress Uniform** and the **Everyday Uniform**.

DRESS UNIFORM

The Dress Uniform is to be worn on all Mass days as well as on *some* off-campus field trips. Special occasions requiring the look of the dress uniform will be communicated from the office as well as from each homeroom.

Girls Dress Uniform Grades K-8

- **Skirt (no skorts):** Navy-Blue, Khaki, or **MOSS Plaid**
Skirt Details: Girls have a variety of skirt styles to choose from to complete their school uniform wardrobe. Skirt wear can be purchased in Navy-Blue or **MOSS plaid**. The styles include a box pleat or kick pleat skirt; a knife pleat or kilt skirt; an A-line skirt, and a culotte or kick pleat culotte. Hemlines of skirts must be no lower than 1 inch below the knee **or higher than 2 inches above the knee**. **The skort is not an acceptable choice for the Dress Uniform.**
- **Pants:** Navy-Blue or Khaki Slacks (Docker Style-not cargo)
Pant Wear: The pant wear is a “Docker Style”, and should have belt loops. **“Skinny style” pants are NOT acceptable. Low-Rise pants are unacceptable.** All students may wear pants throughout the entire school year. Pants must always be worn with a coordinating belt and socks and dress shoes. Pants should not be hemmed above the ankle giving the “high water” pants look. Pants may be patched if it is done tastefully. “White-knee” pants, due to excessive wear, should be removed from your school uniform wardrobe due to their appearance. Cargo pants with thigh pockets are unacceptable
A Belt must be worn with pants: Black, Brown, Navy or Khaki
- **Blouse:** White Button-Down (Top button fastened)
White Dress Blouse: White short-sleeve or long-sleeve dress shirt wear-choices rests on the assumption that white is white. Therefore, a white dress shirt may be purchased from any vendor, if it is shirt-wear of a conservative style. The girls may have pointed, button-down, or rounded (Peter Pan style) collars. All dress shirts must be tucked into a skirt or pants. Application of the school crest to a dress shirt is optional.
- **Cross Tie:** Navy-Blue
- **Cardigan Sweater (Grades K-5)/ Blazer (Grades 6-8):** Navy-Blue with School Crest
Sweater (K-5): Students in grades K-5 have a variety of sweater choices in the color of Navy-Blue with their Dress Uniform. Those choices include a cardigan sweater, crew neck sweater, V-neck sweater, and sleeveless vest. All sweaters must be accompanied by a collared dress shirt. **Application of the school crest is mandatory.**

Blazer (6-8): A single-breasted navy-blue blazer may be purchased anywhere if it is of a conservative style. **Application of the school crest is mandatory.**

Students in Grades K-5 are permitted to wear a blazer in place of a sweater.

- **Socks:** Solid White or Solid Navy-Blue **Knee Socks.** **Tights:** Navy-Blue or White (No leggings)
- **Dress Shoe**
The school dress shoe should be conservative in style. Heels must be reasonable for safety reasons -- no more than 2 inches high. All shoes must contain backs and toes for safety reasons. Shoes must match. Dress shoes should be a **solid color.** **Acceptable colors are black, brown, gray, tan, or navy blue.** **2 tone shoe color is acceptable.**

Boys Dress Uniform Grades K-8

- **Pants:** Navy-Blue or Khaki Slacks
Pants are a “Docker Style”, and should have belt loops. **“Skinny style” pants are NOT acceptable.** Low-Rise pants are unacceptable. All students may wear pants throughout the entire school year. Pants must always be worn with a coordinating belt and socks and dress shoes. Pants should not be hemmed above the ankle giving the “high water” pants look. Pants may be patched if it is done tastefully. “White-knee” pants, due to excessive wear, should be removed from your school uniform wardrobe due to their appearance. Cargo pants with thigh pockets are unacceptable.
- **Belt:** Black, Brown, Navy or Khaki
- **Dress Shirt:** White Button-Down Dress Shirt (Top button fastened)
White Dress Shirt: White short-sleeve or long-sleeve dress shirt wear-choices rests on the assumption that white is white. Therefore, a white dress shirt may be purchased from any vendor, if it is a shirt of a conservative style. The dress shirt may have pointed or button-down collars. All dress shirts must be tucked into pants. Application of the school crest to dress shirt wear is optional.
- **Tie:** Navy-Blue
The boys’ navy-blue tie can either be of the clip-on, or to-be-tied style. They can be purchased from any vendor.
- **Cardigan Sweater (Grades K-5) / Blazer (Grades 6-8):** Navy-Blue with School Crest
Sweater (K-5): Students in grades K-5 have a variety of sweater choices in the color of Navy-Blue to complete their Dress Uniform. Those choices include a cardigan sweater, crew neck sweater, V-neck sweater, and sleeveless vest. All sweaters must be accompanied by a collared dress shirt **Application of the school crest is mandatory.**

Blazer (6-8): A single-breasted Navy-Blue blazer may be purchased anywhere if it is of a conservative style. **Application of the school crest is mandatory for blazers.**

Students in Grades K-5 are permitted to wear a blazer in place of a sweater.

- **Socks:** Solid Navy, Black, or Khaki crew-length socks. The blue/black sock color with navy pants. Khaki sock color with Khaki color pants.
- **Dress Shoe**
- The school dress shoe should be conservative in style. Heels must be reasonable for safety reasons -- no more than 2 inches high. All shoes must contain backs and toes for safety reasons. Shoes must match. Dress shoes should be a **solid color. Acceptable colors are black, brown, gray, tan, or navy blue. 2 tone shoe color is acceptable.**

EVERYDAY UNIFORM

Girls Everyday Uniform Grades K-8

- **Shorts:** Navy-Blue or Khaki-Docker Style or Flat Front Style (**August-November and March-May**)
Shorts must have belt loops. Shorts must always be worn with a coordinating belt, socks, and tennis shoes. **Shorts should be no more than 2 inches above the knee.** Please note that the shorts may be cuffed. Uniform Shorts are not permitted from December-February.
OR
- **Pants:** Navy-Blue or Khaki Docker Style or Flat Front Style
Pants must have belt loops. **“Skinny style” pants are NOT acceptable. Low-Rise pants are unacceptable.** All students may wear pants wear throughout the entire school year. Pants must always be worn with a coordinating belt, socks, and everyday/dress shoes. Pants should not be hemmed above the ankle giving the “high water” pants look. Pants may be patched if it is done tastefully. “White-knee” pants, due to excessive wear, should be removed from your school uniform wardrobe due to their appearance.
OR
- **Jumpers (Grades K-5 only):** Navy-Blue or **MOSS Plaid**
Girls in grades K-5 have the option of wearing a Navy-Blue or plaid jumper or split jumper. Hemlines of jumpers must be no lower than 1 inch below the knee **and not higher than 2 inches above the knee.** Application of the school crest to jumpers is optional.
OR
- **Skirts or Skorts:** Navy-Blue, **MOSS Plaid**, or Khaki
Girls have a variety of skirt styles to choose from. Skirts can be purchased in Navy-Blue, **MOSS plaid**, or Khaki depending on the uniform vendor and style availability. The styles include a box pleat or kick pleat skirt; a knife pleat or kilt skirt; an A-line skirt, and a culotte or kick pleat culotte. These skirt styles are all acceptable choices for either the Dress Uniform or Everyday Uniform. Hemlines of skirts must be no lower than 1 inch below the knee **not higher than 2 inches above the knee.** Girls also may choose a wrap-front skort for their Everyday Uniform.
- **Belt:** Navy-Blue, Black, or Brown. (Mandatory with shorts/pants)
- **Shirt:** Knit/Polyester Polo Style-White, Navy-Blue, Red or White Button-Down Dress Shirt
Short-sleeve or long-sleeve knit/polyester polo styles are acceptable. All knit/polyester polo shirts must be tucked into pants, shorts, or skirts always. Application of the school crest to the polo shirt is optional. A White, Navy-Blue or Red turtleneck can be worn in place of a polo shirt.
- **Socks:** Any style or color **Tights:** Any style or color. (No leggings)
- **Shoes:** Tennis/School/Dress. All shoes must contain backs and toes for safety reasons. Must match.
- **Sweaters:** Students in grades K-8 have a variety of sweater choices in the color of Navy-Blue to complete their Everyday Uniform. Those choices include a cardigan sweater, crew neck sweater, V-neck sweater, and sleeveless vest. All sweaters must be accompanied by a collared shirt or Turtleneck from **Nov. – Feb.**
- **Three Quarter-Zip Sweatshirt: Gray, Blue, or Red**
All sweatshirts must be accompanied by a collared shirt or Turtleneck.

Boys Everyday Uniform Grades K-8

- **Shorts:** Navy-Blue or Khaki-Docker Style or Flat Front Style (**August-November and March-May**)
Shorts must have belt loops. Shorts must always be worn with a coordinating belt, socks, and tennis shoes. Please note that the shorts may be cuffed. Uniform Shorts are not permitted from December-February.

OR

- **Pants:** Navy-Blue or Khaki- Docker Style
Pants must have belt loops. **“Skinny style” pants are NOT acceptable. Low-Rise pants are unacceptable.** All students may wear pants throughout the entire school year. Pants must always be worn with a coordinating belt, socks, and everyday/dress shoes. Pants should not be hemmed above the ankle giving the “high water” pants look. Pants may be patched if it is done tastefully. “White-knee” pants, due to excessive wear, should be removed from your school uniform wardrobe due to their appearance.
- **Belt:** Navy-Blue, Black, or Brown. (Mandatory with shorts/pants)
- **Shirt:** Knit/Polyester Polo Style-White, Navy-Blue, Red or White Button-Down Dress Shirt
Short-sleeve or long-sleeve knit/polyester polo styles are acceptable. All knit/polyester polo shirts must be tucked into pants, shorts, or skirts always. Application of the school crest to the polo shirt is optional. A White, Navy-Blue or Red turtleneck can be worn in place of a polo shirt.
- **Socks:** Any style or color.
- **Shoes:** Tennis/School/Dress. All shoes must contain backs and toes for safety reasons.
- **Sweaters:** Students in grades K-8 have a variety of sweater choices in the color of Navy-Blue to complete their Everyday Uniform. Those choices include a cardigan sweater, crew neck sweater, V-neck sweater, and sleeveless vest. All sweaters must be accompanied by a collared shirt or Turtleneck.
- **Three Quarter-Zip Sweatshirt: Gray, Blue, or Red with MOSS Crest**
All sweatshirts must be accompanied by a collared shirt or Turtleneck.

ITEM CLARIFICATION

- **Skirt Details:** When choosing the MOSS Plaid option, only this pattern is acceptable.



MOSS PLAID

- **Hair Styles:** Student hair should be neat, clean, and well-groomed with a brush or comb. **No mohawks (hair raised/groomed in the middle of the head longer than 1 inch), razor designs, or etchings.** Colors should be natural colors and no permanent accessories. If the school administration finds a hairstyle to be unacceptable, there will be a conversation with a parent. Hairstyle must permit hair to be out of the eyes. Buns are permissible for boys and girls.
- **Jewelry:** Piercings are permitted in ears only. One earring in each ear is acceptable. Earrings should be conservative or **small** hoops only. No jewelry on Physical Education days. One bracelet per arm. One ring per hand.
- **Make-up:** Grades K-5: No makeup Grades 6-8: Natural-looking make-up and colors.
- **Shoes that CANNOT be worn anytime:** Work boots, crocs, clogs, shoes resembling slippers, open-toed, or heelies (tennis shoes that have retractable wheels).

Dress-Down Days

On various occasions throughout the school year, the students will be permitted to have dress-down days. On these days the school uniform need not be worn, but the students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

Dress Down YES:

- Jeans (without holes OR rips of any kind), Sweatpants, Jogging Suits, Capri Pants (mid-calf only) T-Shirts, Sweatshirts.
- Walking shorts. (**No more than 2 inches above the knee**)
- Leggings or Yoga Pants accompanied by a blouse or shirt that covers the backside completely.
- Skirt/dress that is no shorter than 2 inches above the knee.
- Shirts should cover the shoulder completely. No midriff or back should be visible.
- Dress boots from Nov. – Feb.

Dress Down NO:

- Cropped shirts, Tank Tops, Spaghetti Strap tops. **No midriff or back should be visible.**
- **NO HATS**-unless it is part of a spirit week sanctioned by the school
- No attire that express political views/support political entities, etc.
- T-Shirts or Sweatshirts with inappropriate language or pictures.
- High-heeled shoes, work boots, sandals, and platforms.
- Dropped pants or shorts.
- Inappropriate logos/displays on shirts, sweatshirts, or any other clothing.
- Large Hoop earrings.
- Torn/ripped jeans of any kind.
- Leggings or Yoga pants without accompanying shirt (**See above**)
- **Shoes that CANNOT be worn anytime:** Work boots, crocs, clogs, shoes resembling slippers, open-toed, without backs, or heelies (tennis shoes that have retractable wheels).

Teachers and administrators reserve the right to determine if clothing is uniform-appropriate. If students violate these guidelines, parents will be called to bring in a change of clothing.