

Gehlen Catholic School Dress Code Policy

2023-2024

The wearing of uniforms in Catholic schools has been an important part of Catholic education since its beginnings over 135 years ago. The purpose of the Gehlen dress code is to promote an environment of academic professionalism. Uniforms are a unique symbol for several key aspects of Catholic education:

Equality: Service to the cause of justice lay at the very heart of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and therefore plays a key role in Catholic education. The uniform thus becomes a symbol, not of sameness, but of equality – equality of person created in the image of God.

Discipline: Catholic schools have distinguished themselves by fostering an effective atmosphere for a learning and loving community. On this level, the uniform represents order and discipline – discipline based on mutual respect among students and between students and teachers.

In all cases, Gehlen Catholic administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes proper dress code in the spirit of its intent and in accordance with good taste and modest contemporary standards for a Catholic school.

Shirts

- Shirts must be (button) polo or oxford style; short or long sleeve; solid black, white, Gehlen yellow, Gehlen green. No visible brand logos.
- If an undershirt is worn, it must not be visible through the polo
- Shirts must not be form fitting or oversized
- Gehlen logos (only those approved through school which are no larger than 4” by 4” and placed on the front left corner only), no wording or design anywhere else on the shirt.
- All shirts must be tucked in at all times. Shirts must be long enough to be tucked in even when sitting or when hands are raised overhead.
- A maximum of two buttons may be unfastened from the neck down.

Pants/Shorts/Skirts/Skorts

- Navy blue, black or khaki dress pants, dress slacks or capris.
 - 7-12, no jogger or elastic ankle bands.
- Navy blue, black or khaki walking/bermuda shorts, uniform style skirts or skorts of appropriate length (should be long enough that when standing normal with arms hanging they reach the fingertips)
 - PK-6 Shorts acceptable before November 1st and after March 15th
 - 7-12 Shorts and skirts can be worn year round with parental discretion
 - Skirts must be worn at the waist and not be rolled or have the length altered in any manner. The length of the skirt must be less than 3 inches above the knee with the front and the back hem of the skirt being the same length from the floor. Students found in violation of this expectation (3 times per year) will lose the privilege of wearing skirts for the remainder of the year.
- Navy, khaki or black jumpers for PreK – 6 girls only
- 7-12 must wear a belt
- Foundation garments (underwear) should not be visible at any time
- Only solid black, white or navy leggings may be worn under skirts, skorts or jumpers

Sweatshirts/Quarter Zip/Sweaters

- Gehlen logos (only those approved through school which are no larger than 4” by 4” and placed on the front left corner only), no wording or design anywhere else on the sweatshirt, quarter zip, or sweater.
- Gehlen crewneck sweatshirts in solid white, Gehlen yellow, Gehlen green, or black. If sweatshirt is removed, the shirt beneath must meet code

- Quarter Zip Pullovers can be worn in solid black, white, or green with Gehlen Logo.
- Sweaters
 - Cardigans/sweaters should be solid black, white, Gehlen yellow, Gehlen green
 - If sweaters are removed, the shirt beneath must meet code
- Neckties
 - Neckties may be Gehlen yellow, Gehlen green or black
 - Special neckties may be approved by the administration
 - Ties must be tied appropriately

Footwear

- Dress shoes, athletic wear, or sandals with back strap worn correctly
- Socks, tights or hose must be worn

Grooming

- Students are to be neat and practice proper hygiene.
- Male students' hair must be above the eyebrows, not touch the collar of the shirt while standing, and may touch but not cover any part of the ear. Sideburns no lower than the lobe of the ear. A temporary hairstyle to circumvent this policy is prohibited. No mullet or mohawks.
- Male students must be clean-shaven with no visible facial hair.
- No body piercing other than ears and no unnatural or distracting hairstyles and/or hair colors.
- Boys 7 – 12 may have one single stud earring in one or both ears.
- Tattoos must be covered at all times
- No makeup for PK-6 students

The uniform is worn throughout the year unless an exception is made on a specific occasion and approved by an administrator. All Dress Code requirements are to be enforced during Mass. No gum allowed PK-6 and before/at Mass (7-12).

Winter: During winter months, snow boots, hats, gloves/mittens and snow pants are required attire for students in grades PK – 6.

UNACCEPTABLE DRESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

- Denim
- Flannel or flannel look-alikes
- Bibbed garments
- Sleeveless garments
- Garments with rivets
- T-shirt as outer garment
- Athletic wear such as sweatpants, nylon, silk or leggings as main pant
- Faded, badly-worn, torn, frayed or fringed garments
- Garments designed primarily for outerwear (hats, coats, hooded sweatshirts other than Gehlen Catholic non-zippered sweatshirts), nylon or fleece

ACCEPTABLE JEAN DAY ATTIRE Only items listed below are acceptable.

- Regular dress code is always acceptable.
- Any acceptable dress code length jeans: Capri, full length, shorts when in season. No holes in jeans.
- Tops: Gehlen attire (Gehlen t-shirts, Gehlen jerseys, Gehlen sweatshirts)

PK-6 students out of dress code will be advised of the violation by written notice from the principal. 7-12 students out of dress code will be reported by a staff member to the office. When notified, a student may be sent to the office to change in order to meet the dress code. The office will keep track of all violations. After two offenses, students will serve detention and/or loss of privileges. Any additional dress code violations in the same semester will result in additional detentions. All students begin each new semester with 0 violations.