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***St. Nicholas***

# School Uniform and Dress Code Site Guidelines

Policy and Procedures  
at Alphaville and Pinheiros

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Next revision: 2025

[www.stnicholas.com.br](http://www.stnicholas.com.br)



# School Uniform and Dress Code Site Guidelines

As members of the St Nicholas School community, students strive to take pride in their appearance and wear clean and smart clothes.

Students should dress appropriately for the learning environment.

The school promotes equitable access through the dress code, which aims to avoid reinforcing stereotypes or increasing marginalisation or oppression based on race, ethnicity, size, gender, or inequality in socio-economic status.

## Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibility for how students dress resides with the student and parents/guardians. Please refer to the [IB Learner profile](#) for support and guidance.

Responsibility for health and safety and maintaining an appropriate learning atmosphere for all members of the community resides with the school.

St Nicholas School sees the importance of community, belonging, and responsibility at all times for all members of our community. Our uniform and dress code guidelines aim to promote a fair, equitable, and positive approach to how one presents oneself as part of this community, and support students and families in their adherence to the school rules.

St Nicholas students are expected to take pride in being part of the school community and to feel included and respected in their individuality while still abiding by the expectations expressed in these guidelines.

The uniform guidelines also seek to contribute to students' sense of belonging, and security, and promote a positive image when students represent the school outside the premises.

## 1. Uniform Guidelines for Students in Early Years, Primary and Secondary below Grade 10

### Rationale:

The St Nicholas Uniform portrays the school identity and reflects our unity and shared aspirations through our school colours.

### Uniform Guidelines:

The St Nicholas Uniform for Early Years, Primary, and Secondary Learners up to Grade 10 follows the school calendar with a specific set for Physical Education.

The regular school uniform includes a variety of white, short, and long-sleeve shirts. Students in Grade 2 to Grade 9 wear a school tie with their button-up white shirt up to the October break and after Easter. Between the October break and Easter, all students wear the St Nicholas green polo with no tie.

The uniform options offer various opportunities for personalization depending on the weather with trousers, shorts, skirts, skorts, vests, sweaters, and other outerwear options available to allow for layering and to suit the time of year.

In cases of inclement weather where raincoats or winter parkas are necessary, non-uniform outerwear is permitted but is not to be worn indoors. These pieces should be in neutral colours such as black, navy blue, and dark green.

On the days when students have a PE lesson, they may wear their PE uniform all day. They may also opt to change into their PE uniform for their PE class, and back into uniform after the lesson is completed.

We strongly encourage parents to tag the pieces of uniform with their child's name, so in case of loss, they would be easier to return to the owner.

Tiny Tots, Nursery, and Kindergarten	Grades 1-9
	<p>from Grade 2</p>  <p>from Oct Half Term to Easter</p>
PE Uniform from Grade 1 to Grade 10	
	

*The most up-to-date graphics are available on the school website.*

### **Accessories:**

- Hats, caps, bandanas, and head coverings are not to be worn inside buildings, unless for religious or medical reasons.
- Sunglasses should not be worn inside unless for medical purposes.
- Jewellery, piercings, and tattoos should not disrupt the learning environment or be offensive in nature. They should not be dangling or have sharp ends, to prevent injury to the child and others.
- Excessively long fingernails (longer than 1cm past the finger) can cause a safety hazard and prevent students from fully engaging in their learning and are, therefore, not allowed.
- In case makeup is worn, it should be in a way that is appropriate for a school environment.

### **Special Occasions:**

- Guidelines may be relaxed on specific dress-ups or themed days, but appropriateness and modesty should still be maintained.
- All items listed in the above guidelines apply during field trips and excursions, during which, the PE uniform with the House shirt should be worn for easy identification.
- The consequences listed here below will be applied if appropriate attire is worn at an event or trip outside of school.

## **Dress Code Policy for Students in Grade 10 and Above**

### **Rationale:**

The dress code policy for students in Grades 10 and above is designed to create an environment that promotes respect, professionalism, and a focus on academics. It serves to ensure that students are appropriately dressed for a learning environment while allowing for individual expression and comfort. The dress code policy aims to establish a sense of unity, discourage distractions, and prepare students for their future endeavours in college and the workforce.

### **Dress Code Guidelines:**

The following are guidelines for students to follow when selecting their clothing for a day at school:

#### **1. Tops:**

- String tops should not be worn at school.
- Tank tops, if worn, should have modest necklines and not expose undergarments.
- Items that promote political ideology or groups or create a hostile or intimidating environment, promote violence, use offensive verbal or non-verbal language, prejudice, hate speech, profanity, pornography, and use of drugs - including alcohol and tobacco are not permitted.

## 2. Bottoms:

- Trousers, shorts, skirts, skorts, and dresses should be of an appropriate length, reaching mid-thigh or longer.
- Leggings or tights may be worn with a long t-shirt that covers the mid-thigh area.
- Rips or tears in jeans should not expose excessive skin or undergarments.
- Baggy pants or excessively low-rise bottoms are not allowed.

## 3. Footwear:

Students lead active school days involving energetic play, stairs, and the manoeuvres their PE classes (among others) present to them.

Mindful of their health and safety, students are expected to wear footwear that:

- covers the full foot (including toes and heel),
- has an "athletic" fit (velcro, laces, etc), and a low heel,
- secure the heel in place,
- have sturdy and non-slip outsoles,
- and otherwise, provide stability and a secure fit.

When students enter Grade 10 or later, their uniform expectations adjust and their footwear choices expand to include:

- open-toed sandals with a heel strap - except in PE lessons, when sneakers are still needed

During special events where a semi-formal dress code is in effect (such as with Model United Nations), students may wear their dress shoes, sandals, etc.

If we have a concern with the footwear of a student, we will communicate this with home (and with older students themselves) so that families are informed of our observations and concerns.

## 4. Outerwear:

- Outerwear should be appropriate for the school environment
- Outerwear should not display offensive language, images, or symbols.
- Students may be asked to store coats, jackets, and hoodies in lockers during class time if wearing them can impact learning negatively (during lab work or PHE for example)

## 5. PHE / House activities

- Students should wear appropriate sports outfits for PHE lessons, and their House shirts (London, Oxford or Cambridge) on House Events.
- Students must use their House t-shirt for their House competitions and wear it for House Events. The House shirt should also be brought to the NR camp.
- Students must wear appropriate footwear for PHE.

## 6. Accessories:

- Hats, caps, bandanas, and head coverings are not to be worn inside buildings, unless for religious or medical reasons.
- Sunglasses should not be worn inside unless for medical purposes.
- Jewellery, piercings, and tattoos should not disrupt the learning environment or be offensive in nature.
- Excessively long fingernails (longer than 1cm past the finger) can cause a safety hazard and prevent students from fully engaging in their learning and are therefore not allowed.
- Makeup may be worn, but it should be worn in a way that is appropriate for a school environment, ie. not excessive or requiring frequent reapplication.

## 7. Special Occasions:

- Guidelines may be relaxed on specific dress-up or themed days, but appropriateness
- All items listed in the above guidelines apply during field trips and excursions. The consequences listed below will be applied if appropriate attire is worn at an event or trip outside of school.

## Consequences:

We count on the family's support and partnership in abiding by the guidelines regarding school uniform and dress code. It is important for students and families to understand the consequences of not adhering to the dress code policy. While the emphasis should be on educating and informing students, it is necessary to enforce the policy to maintain a consistent and fair learning environment. Consequences for dress code violations may include:

1. **Verbal warning:** Learners will be reminded of the dress code policy and asked to rectify the violation. A behaviour note will be added on Managebac.
2. **Parental notification:** Parents or guardians will be notified of the dress code violation via email, emphasising the need for compliance.
3. **Temporary change of attire:** In some cases, students may be required to wear an alternative outfit provided by the school until the dress code violation is resolved.
4. **Family meeting and written warning:** Continued violations of the school dress code following all of the above stages will result in a meeting with the student and their family together with relevant members of the school's leadership and wellbeing teams to discuss further action.
5. **Suspension:** Repeated or serious violations may result in suspension to be carried out at school in which the student will reflect on the importance of following the dress code policy. This suspension will be completed with the Head of Secondary.

It is important to note that these guidelines are intended to provide general direction while allowing for individual expression and cultural sensitivity. School administrators and staff will exercise discretion and fairness in enforcing the dress code policy, considering the evolving nature of fashion and cultural norms.



The list is not inclusive. Students using other non-specified items that are judged by the school community as not appropriate for a learning environment and/or damage the image of the school, will be addressed by the school leadership in a way consistent with the code.

In conclusion, a dress code policy for students in Grades 10 to 12 establishes a positive learning environment, promotes respect, and prepares students for their future professional lives. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a conducive educational atmosphere that prioritises academic achievement and mutual respect among peers.

**Mr. Andrew VanderMeulen** - Head of School - St Nicholas Pinheiros

**Mr. Simon Lee** - Head of School - St Nicholas Alphaville

**Ms. Selma Moura** - Brazilian Director - St Nicholas Pinheiros & Alphaville

