



## Bishop McNamara Catholic School Dress Code

A principal goal of Bishop McNamara Catholic School is to develop in the student a respect for self and others, pride in one's appearance, and good conduct. These qualities aid in establishing a proper learning environment. To help develop these traits, Bishop McNamara Catholic School has adopted a dress code policy which is considerate of our aim to promote a feeling of equality for all while discouraging competition in dress. A respectful dress code helps promote a safe and appropriate learning environment free from distractions, while contributing to students' preparation for success beyond adolescence.

This change in the school allows us to have a fresh start with our school uniforms. A committee was established consisting of current parents, staff and teachers from the three elementary schools and the high school. During the committee meetings, there was commitment to several factors and priorities:

- Affordability
- Neatness
- Distinction
- Character
- Spirit
- Comfort
- Consistency
- Modesty

With these considerations in place, the dress code committee established a clearly outlined new dress code, outlined below.

Bishop McNamara will enter a partnership with Land's End clothing company for some aspects of the new dress code, while allowing for flexibility for local purchasing for pants (details herein).

Land's End offers multiple discounts at various times throughout the year, including free embroidery, free shipping and package discounts. In addition, a 16% Scrip kickback is also available. Land's End has an excellent reputation in their return policy and customer service.

You have chosen a quality Catholic school. The committee was committed to ensuring a quality appearance for our students. The change in school allows us the opportunity to reinforce the "dress for success" mindset that helps us all - teachers, staff, parents, students - do what we do best without the distractions. We expect and hope that you, as parents, will support and embrace this new dress code.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick Kennedy '90".

Patrick Kennedy '90

Assistant Principal for Mission Effectiveness & Student Life

pkennedy@bishopmac.org Tel. 815.932.7413 Mobile: 815.954.9840

Direct link to Bishop McNamara Catholic School uniform ordering site:

<http://www.landsend.com/pp/SchoolSearch.html?action=landing&selectedSchoolNum=900174327>



**Uniform Summary:** *Goal: uniformity of color scheme with school colors and uniformity of spirit with traditional, but stylish, dressy, comfortable, and matching uniform outfits with some choice. Affordability. Customer service. Comfort. Dress for success.*

Lands' End company is the exclusive supplier of all oxford shirts, white plaid and khaki skirts/skorts/jumpers, evergreen green polos, all outerwear, and boys' ties. Off-brand navy pants, navy shorts, and white polos are acceptable (logo required at certain grade levels as outlined below).

**Bottom:**

- PreK-6: white plaid skirts, skorts and jumper (optional for PreK-3) and navy anchor colors for skirts/pants/shorts. All pants require belt. Jogger or cargo pants/shorts not permitted.
- Jr. High: white plaid skirts/skorts and navy anchor colors for skirts/pants/shorts. All pants require belt. Jogger or cargo pants/shorts not permitted.
- Sr. High: khaki anchor color for skirts/pants/shorts/skorts, or gray for Classes of 2017-19 (phased out by May 2019). All pants require belt. Jogger or cargo pants/shorts not permitted.
- **Relaxed Dress all grade levels:** Capris and shorts of modest-length (fingertip) permitted (Relaxed Dress determined by school administration, typically limited to warm weather).

**Top:**

- PreK-6: white and evergreen green polo shirts – (logo optional for white)
- Jr. High: white and evergreen green polo - logo required on white and green
- Sr. High: white and light blue oxfords short or long-sleeved –logo required. Ties required for boys on Tuesdays and Thursdays. CML Activewear blue and white shirts permitted for Classes of 2017-19 (phased out by May 2019). All shirts are to be buttoned up to neck, all ties tied to collar. \*White or Evergreen green (logo) polos permitted during Relaxed Dress. All shirts tucked in for both Regular and Relaxed Dress.

**Spirit Fridays all grade levels:** Spirit Wear top (jackets closed) with uniform pants and uniform shoes every Friday (all other uniform guidelines pants/skirts remain in effect no sweat pants, jeans, earrings, hats, etc.).

**Optional Outerwear all grade levels** (logo required on all outerwear)

- Unisex–Evergreen Microfleece Half-Zip (classes of 2017-2019 will grandfather black fleece)
- Evergreen Cardigan
- Evergreen V neck or crewneck sweater
- Evergreen Vest

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### Shoes—K-12

- Black, brown, navy or two-tone (i.e. Sperry-type patterns) – dress shoes.
- Winter boots (e.g. variations of Uggh style, Hunter, etc.) acceptable only during weather-determined dates (i.e. December 1 - March 1)
- No sandals, no athletic shoes, no gym shoes, no tennis shoes, no Vans, **no canvas shoes**, no slippers, no moccasins, no UnderArmour, Jordans, Nike, Adidas, Converse, Toms, Vans, Puma, other athletic shoes permitted.

### Socks & Tights - K-12

- Boys/Men & Girls/Women: Over the ankle White, Navy, Black, Khaki—SOLID colors only
- Girls/Women: Knee socks White, Navy—SOLID colors only
- Girls/Women: Tights and footless tights—white, navy, black—SOLID colors only
- Girls/Women: No yoga pants, no stretch pants, no athletic tights, no lace tights

### Belts

Black, Brown, Navy Blue, Tan/Khaki

### Undershirts

At the 7-12 levels, all undershirts must be solid white crewneck, v-neck or A-shirt/tanktop. No other colors permitted.

### Dress Code Guidelines:

All other dress code guidelines will be outlined in the Student & Parent Handbook. Any questions prior to that publication date may be directed to the school or to Patrick Kennedy, directly, 815.954.9840 [pkennedy@bishopmac.org](mailto:pkennedy@bishopmac.org).

### NOTES:

Changes may be made to the above. However, parents and students will be given ample notice of any changes, be they slight or major.

In all aspects of school life, we work in partnership with parents and ask that you assist us, especially at the high school level, at helping our students *dress for success*.

Lands' End will accept items as returns even if said items have been embroidered.

Lands' End has made arrangements for all Bishop McNamara "M" logos to cost only \$1 this inaugural year of our partnership.

Lands' End offers several discounts throughout the year. These are promoted frequently during the summer in hopes of helping you keep your uniform costs at a minimum.

All uniform questions may be directed to Patrick Kennedy at 815.932.7413 or [pkennedy@bishopmac.org](mailto:pkennedy@bishopmac.org)

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