



Wynyard High School Dress Code and Uniform Policy

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Version 1.0 – 28/01/2020

1. Purpose.....	3
2. Policy Statement	3
3. Related policies.....	8
4. Supporting information/tools	8
5. Definitions	8
6. Legislation	9

1. Purpose

The purpose of a School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy (the Policy) is to promote social equity in terms of clothing, assisting school staff in easily identifying students and enhancing the sense of pride within a school. The Policy is in accordance with [*Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code*](#) and developed in consultation with the School Association and students.

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Promote a shared sense of school identity and ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- Strengthen the profile and identity of the school and its students within the broader community
- Assist school staff to easily identify students on school excursions and on the school campus
- Encourage students to take pride in their appearance
- Prepare learners for the expectations of the workplace
- Identify the process for establishing a dress code, or uniform and who is required to wear one
- Identify the process for granting exemptions to a dress code or uniform.

2. Policy Statement

2.1 Key Information

- State schools for students from Prep to Year 10 inclusive must have a school uniform. It is a requirement that these students wear the uniform their school endorses.
- To ensure that the requirements of [*Education Act 2016*](#) and the Secretary's Instruction are met, the school must:
 - » Allow exemptions and/or criteria to evaluate applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy, where individual circumstances make it difficult to adhere to the Policy and would outweigh the benefits of compliance.
 - » Provide students with unisex options in addition to any male and female specific items.
 - » Endorse a uniform that is cost effective. (Schools should consider providing uniform banks to support families experiencing hardship to meet uniform requirements.)
- A principal with students enrolled outside of Prep to Year 10 can choose to require all students to wear the uniform. This must be established through a dress code, and must include consultation with the School Association and students.
- Consultation with the School Association can be done by requesting the School Association Committee to include dress code/uniform as an agenda item at a Committee meeting. The school can promote that consultation is underway and invite parents to provide feedback through the Committee.
- A dress code may stipulate requirements around personal appearance and grooming.
- When introducing a new dress code or uniform, a transition period of 12 months is recommended to allow time for the Policy to be understood and adhered to.

2.2 Requirements

The Policy applies during school activities (including out-of-hours or off-site activities), on school campus and while travelling to or from school (while wearing school uniform), unless an exemption has been granted.

2.3 Roles and responsibilities

Principals

Principals must:

- Have a uniform for students from Prep to Year 10 inclusive;
- Detail the process for exemptions from the dress code or uniform;
- Detail a review process for any applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy;
- Detail how non-compliance with dress code or uniform will be dealt with under the school's Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process;
- Consult with the School Association when developing a dress code or uniform; and
- Consult with students when developing a dress code or uniform.

Principals may:

- Develop and implement a dress code.

Where the decision is made to develop a dress code, a principal must:

- Ensure compliance with legislation including: [Education Act 2016](#) (Tas), [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (Cth), [Sex Discrimination Act 1984](#) (Cth), [Anti-Discrimination Act 1998](#) (Tas) and [Racial Discrimination Act 1975](#) (Cth);
- Consult with their School Association and students to ensure the Policy reflects the views of the school; and
- Include requirements on the wearing of hats in line with the [Cancer Council of Tasmania's 'Sun Smart' Program](#). (See the [Sun Protection Policy](#) for further information.)

Teaching Staff

Teaching staff must:

- Ensure compliance with any dress code and uniform by following the processes established by the school to address non-compliance.

Parents/Carers and Students

Parents/carers and students must:

- Ensure compliance with the Policy or apply for an exemption.

2.4 Uniform Items

Year 7-10

- School Issue-Grey shorts, school issue-grey or black trousers, black shorts or plain navy track pants (no stripes)
- Navy short sleeved polo shirt or blue collared school shirt
- Winter skirt or summer dress
- Black stockings
- Black pull on, or lace up, closed shoes
- School Tie (Optional)
- School rugby top, puffy coat or soft shell jacket

- School Navy Blue Hoodies with the school logo

The **footwear** to accompany the Everyday Uniform must be black enclosed shoes.

Physical Education – a change of clothes is required

- Shorts or tracksuit
- T-shirt/shirt
- Change of socks
- Sport shoes

Students are expected to change back into their full school uniform once this class has finished.

The **footwear** to accompany the Sport Uniform must be suitable (non-marking) sports shoes.

Students in Years 11 and 12 are not required to wear a uniform. However, students are required to comply with the school's dress code.



2.5 Requirements

Uniform Requirements

If you need support with your child's uniform you can talk to your child's teacher or principal to discuss your family's eligibility for support or assistance in the purchase of school uniforms.

The school believes the following are the benefits derived from the wearing of school uniform by all children:

- Wearing a uniform improves school tone and atmosphere and helps develop a sense of pride and belonging to the school
- Families have the opportunity to purchase economical, durable, functional and practical clothing items through the school
- School uniforms assist in eliminating peer group pressure to wear less appropriate clothing reduces competition amongst children and removes pressure on families
- Promotes equality amongst all students
- Assists with student safety
- Maintains the high public and community regard for the school and its students

It is our School Association policy that we wear school uniform **every** day unless an "Out of Uniform Day" is organised. These occasions are advertised in the newsletter and on our Facebook page.

Parents and students are reminded on choosing this school that they undertake to support the school in its expectation that all students will wear the correct school uniform items listed below. Their uniform is to be neat, clean and worn in a conventional manner at all times. The wearing of other garments will be seen as incorrect uniform and therefore unacceptable.

If a student consistently refuses to wear the school uniform, the Education Act – 2016 Secretary's Instructions Number Six, provides clarity for families and schools around expectations.

The uniform requirements are:

- Full school uniform is required to be worn during school hours, while travelling to and from school and when students are representing the school during and outside school hours. Students must wear full school uniform, with appropriate footwear regularly if they are to participate in some activities. e.g. excursions, attend expo's, listen to guest speakers etc.
- School uniform must be neat, clean and in good condition.
- Students are required to wear sound, appropriate footwear to school. Thongs, gumboots and Ugg boots are examples of inappropriate footwear. Black leather shoes are the preferred form of footwear. Socks must be worn.
- For safety reasons, jewellery with the exception of watches and plain stud or small "sleeper" earrings, is not permitted
- In line with the Cancer Council's Sun smart policy, during daylight savings, all children are encouraged to wear a hat when outside. This includes lunch time, recess and sports sessions when required. Hats are not to be worn inside
- The student Dress Code and policy, including details of uniform items and places of purchase will be published regularly in the school newsletter and face book page.
- School Association authorises the Principal to be responsible for the implementation of the Dress Code in a manner consistent with the School's values and the Department of Education's behaviour management policy
- Parents seeking an exemption to the Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health conditions or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.

Communications between School and Home Concerning Uniforms:

- Where a student is temporarily out of uniform (e.g. an item is lost), parents are asked to contact the school via phone, text or note
- Where a longer-term exemption is required (e.g. for a medical condition), a medical certificate should be provided to the school
- Where a student is failing to comply with the uniform policy, teachers are required to:
 - I. draw the matter to the attention of the student and
 - II. communicate with the parents

Provisions for Making Change to Uniforms:

Every effort has been made to provide a uniform which meets the needs of the school community. It is not envisaged that changes will take place frequently from here on, and in the interests of stability, this is not desirable. However, should an item no longer meet the Criteria listed in this document (e.g. no longer readily available), parents should contact the School Association.

2.6 Dress code

The following requirement apply in relation to;

- Personal presentation/appearance
 - Non-school uniform items (i.e. jumpers, hoodies or shirts under school uniform)
 - School hoodies to be worn over school shirt or polo

Wynyard High School requires students in Year 11 and 12 to arrive to school in neat and tidy clothing. It is expected students will wear the Year 11/12 uniform items.

- Approved 11/12 short sleeved polo shirt
- Approved 11/12 School hoodie

2.7 Exemptions

Parents may seek an exemption from compliance with elements of the school's Policy. This will be granted where the principal considers that it is in the best interests of the student to allow such an exemption. When deciding whether to grant an exemption, the principal will consider:

- Offering a grace period for new students starting partway through the school year to comply with the Policy and acquire any uniform items.
- Religious beliefs, cultural background and/or individual needs (e.g. sensory issues).
- Uniform exemptions may be granted for 'free dress day'. Free dress clothing must be sun safe, should not display inappropriate or offensive logos, images or slogans, and closed-toe footwear must be worn.
- Uniform exemptions may be required for specific school activities where it would not be appropriate for a student to be in uniform/comply with dress code (i.e. swimming, surfing, farming/ agriculture) or where uniform would not be visible due to protective or specialised clothing (i.e. automotive, trades or chemistry).

Requesting an exemption

To request an exemption a parent/carer or independent student must:

- speak to your child's teacher or Year leader;
- list any requirements that are of concern; and
- nominate the requested length of exemption from the requirements.

For exemptions requested for five or less consecutive school days, the principal must:

- consider the request and notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.

For exemptions requested for more than five consecutive school days, the principal must:

- respond in writing to notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- include the timeframes if an exemption is granted;
- maintain a record of the exemption in the student's file; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.>

2.8 Non-compliance with dress code or uniform

- Responses to non-compliance with the Policy should not interfere with student learning, unless necessary for student safety.
- Students should not be penalised for circumstances beyond control of them and/or their parent/carer (i.e. lack of availability of a uniform item).

- See the [Respectful Student Behaviour Policy](#) and [Process](#) for further information on how to manage non-compliance with the Policy.

3. Related policies

Policy	Purpose
Sun Protection Policy	To set out the matters that a principal is to take into account in developing a dress code for the students at their school
Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process	When addressing non-compliance with the student dress code or uniform, a principal should refer to their <i>Respectful Student Behaviour Policy</i> and <i>Process</i> .

4. Supporting information/tools

Supporting Document	Purpose
Template School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy	A template School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy that a principal can use to insert their school specific information (identified by orange headings).
Checklist for School Student Dress Code and Uniform	The (attached) Checklist can be used to ensure a dress code or uniform policy is compliant with the legislation and Secretary's Instruction.
FAQ for Schools on Dress Code and Uniform Policy	Answers to school's frequently asked questions on dress code and uniform.
Parent Fact Sheet: Dress Code and Uniforms in Tasmanian Government Schools	An electronic and printable fact sheet schools can provide to parents about dress code and uniforms.

5. Definitions

Dress Code

Dress code means a set of requirements for how students should present themselves when attending or representing their school. As well as specifying clothing, a dress code may include personal presentation and appearance. There is no requirement for a school to have a dress code; however if a school has a dress code:

For students in Prep to Year 10 it includes the wearing of a uniform.

For students in Kindergarten, and years 11 and 12 it may include a standard of dress and/or uniform.

Uniform

Uniform means a distinct set of clothing worn by members of the same organisation, and may include a school emblem and colour scheme. A uniform is required for students in Prep to Year 10.

6. Legislation

Instrument	Purpose
<u>Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code</u>	To set out the matters that a principal is to take into account in developing a dress code for the students at their school.

Authorised by: Anita Griffin, Director, Strategic Policy and Planning

Contact: Strategic Policy and Planning, strategicpolicyandplanning@education.tas.gov.au

Last Significant Review: 7 May 2018

Review Due: 7 May 2023

This Document Replaced: DoE School Uniform Policy (2016)