



UNIFORM AND GROOMING POLICY

FEBRUARY 2021

1. **PURPOSE**

This policy aims to:

- i. Create consistent expectations throughout the school in regard to the wearing of the school uniform.
- ii. Highlight the importance of the school uniform as a means of encouraging self-discipline, pride and a positive approach to learning.
- iii. Ensure the students' safety, modesty and comfort when wearing the school uniform.

2. **POLICY STATEMENT**

Clothes can be a status symbol in schools, but a school uniform places everyone on a level playing field. Therefore, students who are unable to afford current fashions will not be ostracised or ridiculed. A school uniform inspires a feeling of unity and togetherness among students. A school uniform greatly reduces the amount of preparation and time that is required on getting ready for school in the morning. There is significant pressure on parents to buy their children expensive clothing; school uniforms are usually cheaper than other clothing options.

3. **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all students.

4. **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- i. The general appearance of a student is an outward sign to others of the pride and respect that they have in themselves. Therefore, the staff encourages the students to be neatly groomed.
- ii. All decisions regarding changes to the school uniform are made in consultation with the parent body at Parents and Friends Association meetings. Any proposed changes must be advertised among the parents prior to the meetings at which the proposals are discussed.
- iii. The school uniform shop is opened one morning per week. The shop sells both new and used uniform items.
- iv. Uniform orders, with payment, can also be sent to the school office. There is an order form and price list on the school website.
- v. School hats can be purchased from the school office.

5. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

i. **Principal**

- a. Give adequate notification to the parents for the transition from summer to winter uniform and from winter to summer uniform.

ii. **Staff**

- a. Administer this uniform policy.

iii. **Students**

- a. Wear the school uniform correctly. For boys, this includes the tucking in of the shirt on the winter uniform.
- b. Wear the school hat while outside.
- c. Play under the COLA if they do not have a hat.

- d. Limit the wearing of jewellery to:
 - 1 pair of earring studs or sleepers - No “dangly” earrings
 - 1 ring
 - 1 watch
 - 1 bangle
- e. Do not wear lipstick, lip gloss, blush, mascara, eyeshadow, foundation and any other forms of makeup. Students who wear makeup will be supplied with makeup remover. We do encourage application of standard sunscreen.
- f. Tie back hair neatly and tidily if it is longer than shoulder-length. This regulation, which applies to both girls and boys, aims to minimise the risk of spreading head lice.

iv. **Parents**

- a. Ensure that their children wear the correct school uniform.
- b. Provide a written request for any short-term variation from the school uniform.
- c. Ensure that the school uniform is clean and in good condition.

6. BUDGET

The uniform shop will be run from the Parents and Friends Association funds, independently of the school budget.

7. NEXT REVIEW DATE

This policy will be reviewed in 2020 in consultation with relevant staff.

8. DEFINITIONS

Transition period: A period of approximately two weeks when the students change from wearing the summer uniform to the winter uniform, and from the winter uniform to the summer uniform.

9. LEGISLATIVE / PROFESSIONAL GUIDELINES

Catholic Schools Office, Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, School Uniform Policy (2011)

APPENDIX 1: GUIDELINES FOR ADOPTING A VARIATION TO THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

- i. Any initial proposal for making a variation to the uniform must be made at a P&F meeting.
- ii. The meeting will move the motion approving the principal to form a committee to proceed.
- iii. The principal will appoint a committee to guide the process. The committee will include both parents and staff members.
- iv. The committee’s role is to present to the community options for variations to the uniform.
- v. The consultation process will include a survey of parents. A small majority in favour of the proposed change will not necessarily lead to a change, as other factors may need to be considered.
- vi. If the school community votes for a change, approval for the change must be sought from the Assistant Director of Schools.

- vii. If it is deemed beneficial, the students will be consulted in regard to any proposed variations to the school uniform.
- viii. A two-year transition period to the new uniform must be applied.

APPENDIX 2: SCHOOL UNIFORM

	Girls	Boys
Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue dress with inverted pleat (front and back) or • Navy blue skort and sky blue school-crested blouse • White ankle socks • Black leather lace-up or buckle shoes that are able to be polished • School hat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey shorts (Cargo shorts are not an acceptable alternative to the school uniform) • Blue shirt (short sleeves) • Grey ankle socks • Black leather lace-up or elasticised shoes that are able to be polished • School hat
Winter	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey and blue tunic • Pale blue long-sleeved blouse with Peter Pan collar </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy blue slacks • Pale blue long-sleeved blouse with Peter Pan collar • Girls' tie </div> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White ankle socks or • Grey stockings • Black leather lace-up or buckle shoes that are able to be polished • Fleecy navy zipper jacket or • School tracksuit jacket • School hat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long grey trousers • Blue long-sleeved shirt • School tie • Grey socks • Black leather lace-up or elasticized shoes that are able to be polished • Fleecy navy zipper jacket or • School tracksuit jacket • School hat
Sport days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy shorts bearing the St Patrick's name • Sky blue and navy sports polo shirt • White ankle socks • Joggers, runners or cross-trainer style shoes • School tracksuit • School hat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy shorts bearing the St Patrick's name • Sky blue and navy sports polo shirt • White ankle socks • Joggers, runners or cross-trainer style shoes • School tracksuit • School hat

- i. Shoes worn with the summer and winter uniforms are black leather lace-up, elasticised or buckle shoes that are able to be polished. Sport shoes, canvas shoes, suede shoes, slip-on shoes, etc. are not acceptable. Parents should not be persuaded by their children to purchase anything other than these shoes.
- ii. Girls' shoes should be of a suitable height that will allow them to engage in physical activity safely.
- iii. Shoes that are rarely or never polished look terrible and they do not last as long as shoes that are cared for. Children (even young ones) should be expected to polish their own shoes at least weekly.
- iv. The shoes worn on sport days must be white or predominantly white.
- v. The only additional item of clothing permitted to be worn is a warm jacket during exceptionally cold weather.