



MARSHALL ROAD STATE SCHOOL

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The code applies during school hours and travelling to and from schools and for attendance at co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Rationale

This school has adopted the student dress code outlined in this document because it believes that this code:

- promotes a safe environment for learning by enabling ready identification of students and non-students of the school;
- promotes an effective teaching and learning environment by eliminating the distraction of competition in dress and fashion at the school;
- promotes a supportive environment at the school by fostering a sense of belonging;
- fosters mutual respect among individuals at the school by minimising visible evidence of economic, class or social differences; and promotes the good image of the school within the community.

This will be affected through all students wearing a uniform mode of dress that reflects standards endorsed by the general school community.

Matters Guiding the Uniform Dress Code

In adopting this code, the following matters were considered:

Access and participation:

- maximising students access to, and participation in, all educational experiences;
- enhancing student safety by ready identification of members of the student body;
- ensuring health and safety requirements according to relevant legislation and policy;
- minimising harassment attributed to, and accentuated by dress;
- ensuring flexibility of style, colour and fabrics, based on factors such as temperature and humidity, exposure to ultra-violet radiation, flammability, personal comfort, body shape, and appropriateness for the activity;
- ensuring that both male and female students have items of dress that allow full participation in physical activities; and
- minimising stereotypical ideas about appropriateness for female and male students.

Respect for others:

- encouraging respect between students and school staff, students and community members, and among students;
- contributing positively to a supportive school environment; and
- encouraging effective learning and teaching practices.

Continuity and fair-trade practice regarding uniforms:

- impact on the school community regarding cost, availability and guarantee of supply for a reasonable period of time;
- need to resist change for the sake of change; and
- departmental policy relating to fair trade.

Responsiveness and sensitivity to:

- contemporary styles;
- the context of learning and teaching;
- current research and technology relevant to items of dress; and
- the maturity of students, gender, disability, religious and cultural beliefs, socioeconomic circumstances, desire for pride in the school, and students' sense of individuality in their personal appearance.

School community awareness of the:

- rationale for the code;
- expectations and responsibilities of those who are directly or indirectly affected by the code;
- need for review of the dress code; and
- changing values and attitudes reflecting changes in society.

Upholding of community expectations:

Schools play an important role in our communities. Student dress codes should promote the good image of the school within the community, and should encourage students to uphold and enhance that image. While students are wearing the school uniform they are representing our school and therefore behaviour should be in line with the school's Student Code of Behaviour.

Uniform Mode of Dress

In keeping with the principles and considerations outlined above, the school has adopted a uniform mode of dress. The uniform adopted consists of the compulsory core items as well as some optional items as described below. Uniform is to be worn by students to and from school and at school activities unless otherwise stated. All uniform is unisex and available for either gender and non-binary students.

School Uniform for Prep - Year 6

Dress: Green and white check. A-line with cap sleeve and zippered front.

Culottes/skorts/shorts: Green or Grey - worn with MRSS Polo shirt or blouse.

Shirt: Green and white check peplum blouse, dress shirt (buttoned shirt) or MRSS Polo Shirt

Socks: White or Grey

Shoes: Black closed in shoes

(To ensure safety, students without appropriate footwear will not be able to play outside.)

Hats: Children must wear a dark green hat with a brim (7 cm) which protects the face and neck when engaging in outdoor activities. This includes walking to and from school and waiting for the bus. "No Hat, No Outside Play".

Years 1-6 Bottle Green (7cm brim), Prep (Yellow)

To ensure both short- and long-term protection from the sun, the school has adopted a style of hat which is mandatory for outdoor activities and the wearing of sunscreen is encouraged. The school provides sunscreen through our SRS scheme. (See Sun safe Policy for details).

School Uniform for Prep Students

As above with a yellow broad-brimmed hat with the school logo. The inclusion of a unique hat for Prep students helps make our youngest children more easily recognisable within the school grounds.

Graduating Student Senior Shirt

In recognition of the leader status of our graduating students, each graduating student has the option to purchase a senior shirt that they may wear in addition to their normal school uniform.

Optional Winter Items for Prep - Year 6

Jumper: Unisex bottle green zip front jacket with MRSS logo.

Winter tracksuit pants: Bottle Green/Grey

Tights, Leggings: Bottle Green, Black, Grey or White

Optional Sports Uniform

MRSS Polo shirt in house colour work with grey shorts or green shorts/skorts/shorts.

Sports uniform can be worn on whole school assembly day and to school sporting events such as swimming carnival, cross country and athletics carnivals. Representative teams should wear their school uniform to school and change into their sports uniform during lunch.

For general safety long hair should be tied back when playing sport.

Sports Days: Students are required to wear protective clothing (e.g. hats) and sunscreen. Students are permitted to wear appropriate clothing in team colours for inter-house sports days.

Swimming: Sun safety is to be observed at all times. Students are to wear sun shirt over their swimmers. On competition days students may remove their sun shirt whilst competing. Bathing caps are to be worn at all times in the school pool.

Sunglasses: The wearing of sunglasses is encouraged but caring for these remain the responsibility of students.

Hair: Hair that is shoulder length or longer should be tied back for health and safety reasons. If ribbons etc are worn they should be dark/bottle green. Inappropriate hairstyles such as mohawks or long mullets are not acceptable. Hair colouring of any type is not permissible except on sports day's or special crazy hair style events.

Jewellery: The only jewellery students can wear to school is a watch and no more than two pairs of small sleepers or studs in their ears. No other exposed body piercing is permitted. However, medical alert bracelets are permissible. Students wearing inappropriate jewellery will be told to remove it and the jewellery sent home to parents in a sealed envelope with a note explaining why the jewellery is not to be worn to school.

Optional School Bag

An ergonomically friendly back pack is available in bottle green with the school logo. If this option is not chosen then students must provide a bag that has plain colours and no logos or advertising brand names.

Specific Issues

Band: It is a condition of being a member of a band or choir that members wear the specified uniform.

Body Art: Students are not to attend school wearing fake tattoos, nail polish or make-up. Students wearing these items will be requested to remove them.

Camps: Our school camping program involves physical indoor and outdoor activities and it is important that appropriate and safe clothing is worn. Children must conform with clothing lists provided for camp. (e.g. no sleeveless shirts to be worn.)

Excursions: Children are required to adhere to uniform mode of dress when representing the school e.g. competitions, performances, excursions etc.

Free Dress Days: Student Council usually holds a free dress day each term to raise money for charities. At times there may be a special theme for this day or children can choose to wear casual clothes. There are some rules that need to apply when considering dress for these days:

1. Sun safe clothing - no sleeveless shirts, singlet tops, shoestring straps, exposed midriffs, miniskirts or short shorts,
2. Shoes suitable for school activities - no thongs or high heels.
3. Appropriate accessories - No fake swords or toys that could be used to hurt others.
4. No make-up, fingernail polish, jewellery etc unless it is planned as part of a costume for a themed free dress day.
5. Appropriate T-shirt messages - no offensive language, drawings or messages are acceptable.

Signing Shirts: Students are not to get their shirts signed when they are leaving the school. Students may purchase a soft toy, sourced by the school, to be signed as an alternative.

Special Events: Students are permitted to wear community-group uniforms where they represent that community group on special occasions.

Special Needs: The uniform mode of dress may need to be modified to meet the special needs of students e.g. physical impairment.

Special Circumstances

Second-hand Clothing:

The school, with support from the P & C will have a bank of second-hand clothing which can be made available to students whose families are experiencing difficulty in purchasing the required uniform. For hygiene reasons, the second-hand bank of clothing will not include socks, shoes or hats. Any items issued to students should be returned to the office after laundering.

Religious Grounds: Students and families may request to adapt the uniform on religious, medical or cultural grounds. This should be done in writing. Students wearing religious headwear are required to wear black or white.

Strategies to Implement the Dress Code

The school community is made aware of the dress code through the following communication channels: school assemblies, parent handbook, newsletter, Facebook and website.

Areas of Responsibility

Principal

The Principal will negotiate a position with students and parents who are not complying with the dress code.

If a student is inappropriately dressed the Principal or nominee will:

- offer appropriate item/s from the bank of uniforms held at the school;
- take action that prevents risk to the student or others, or action that maintains the normal operation of the school;
- inform the student's parents or carers and, to prevent recurrence, hold discussions with the parents or carers, representatives of the school and the school community, and the student; and
- implement a process of conflict resolution or mediation if, after discussions have been held with the student's parents or carers, the student persistently wears inappropriate dress.

If the student is reasonably dressed but does not conform to the student dress code, the Principal or nominee will:

- offer appropriate item/s from the bank of uniforms held at the school; inform the student's parents or carers of the matter and, if necessary, discuss it further with them; and
- use, with representatives of the school community, appropriate conflict-resolution or mediation strategies if the student persistently fails to observe the student dress code

Parents

Parents are responsible for the provision and maintenance of the uniform mode of dress. They are required to ensure their children are appropriately dressed each school day. It is also a responsibility to ensure all clothing items are clearly marked with the student's name.

Students

Students are responsible for wearing the uniform dress in a manner that shows pride in oneself and promotes the good image of the school within the community. They are also responsible for checking lost property for missing items.

Parents' and Citizens' Association

The Parents and Citizens association will:

- review the Student Code of Dress;
- endorse the Student Code of Dress;
- review the uniform mode of dress as required and modify in helping with community standards if required and,
- make a range of uniforms available for purchase by parents throughout the year.

Teachers

- encourage children to adhere to the dress code to ensure children wear protective clothing and equipment as required
- send children to office to access appropriate item/s from the bank of uniforms held at the school
- adhere to the Anti-Discrimination Act, 1991 and Workplace Health & Safety Act 1989

Exemption from Meeting Dress Code Requirements

Grounds for Exemption

- Mobile families to be allowed sufficient time (approximately 2 weeks after enrolment) to purchase appropriate clothing items that meet the student dress code required at this school;
- Families experiencing economic hardship may be offered special arrangements, or an extended period of time, to purchase new items of dress;
- Students with physical impairments to be permitted considerable flexibility in the interpretation of the dress code if required to meet their specific needs; and
- Conscientious objection, for example objections raised on any religious or cultural grounds, will be considered in relation to students/ parents raising such objections.

Application for Exemption

Parents may request exemption from complying with the dress code. Applications must be in writing, stating reasons for such exemption.

After consideration of all facts, and/or consultation with appropriate people/groups, the Principal shall advise the parents of the decision and reasons in writing.

Implementation

The Principal is responsible for the implementation of this policy.

Transition Period



As most children have and wear clothing in keeping with the current uniform dress code, to avoid unnecessary expense for family's children may continue to wear this clothing until it is replaced. At this time, it is expected their new clothing will adhere to the uniform dress code outlined in this document.

Processes for students who aren't wearing uniform

- Students must bring a note from parents/carers explaining why they are not wearing correct uniform. This note needs to be presented to the office before school and an exemption card will be given for the student for that day or period of time depending on individual family circumstances.
- School shirts, shorts, skorts, dresses, if available, will be offered to the student for the day and returned to the office store after laundering.
- Parents of students not wearing uniform and without a note will be contacted to discuss the dress code and possible consequences in order to rectify the situation.
- Students may be denied participation in non-educational activities or withdrawn from situations where student safety could be compromised.
- Students who continue to choose not to follow the dress code or to bring a note will be referred to the Principal

Certification

We, the undersigned, certify that this Student Dress Code has followed the proper consultation process as outlined in the Department of Education Manual.

Position	Signature	Name	Date
Principal		Vicki Hyne	20-6-22
President P&C		Vanessa lentile	20.6.22