



Falls Creek Public School

School Uniform Policy

May 2023

RATIONALE

The wearing of a school uniform assists students in recognising themselves as an integral part of the school community. It also helps reinforce pride in their appearance and in representing the school. In the establishment of this policy, issues such as expense, health and safety and equality have been considered.

OVERVIEW

The Department of Education and Communities supports the wearing of school uniforms by students and the upholding of high standards of dress by students and staff. The department recognises that NSW has a long history of school uniforms or dress codes being decided by the local school community.

This policy requires schools to review and document school uniform or dress code requirements in consultation with their communities and to develop strategies for the wearing of school uniforms.

1. A school uniform consists of a limited range of clothing, including footwear and headwear. It identifies students as belonging to a particular school. Schools usually expect students to wear the uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities out of school hours.
2. Careful selection of a school uniform can contribute to the health and safety of students when engaged in school activities. A school uniform should reflect school community standards and expectations. It should be developed in consultation with and agreed upon by the school community. It should be based on a strong student and parent voice. The whole school community has a role to play in encouraging the meeting of these standards.
3. Decisions about school uniforms should be consistent with work health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation. Aspects of the uniform related to safety, eg. Safe footwear, eye protection and hats, will need to be enforced as appropriate.
4. Uniform policy must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, including the Parents and Citizens' Association. The consultation will be conducted in a manner appropriate to each school and be based on participatory decision-making principles. The school's uniform policy and uniform requirements should be formally endorsed by the school community before implementation. At Falls Creek Public School, consultation occurs through the Student Representative Council, at staff meetings, at a published P&C meeting, as well as other times as requested.
5. A school's uniform policy should consider the diverse nature of the student population in the school and not disadvantage any student. Economic, personal, social and cultural factors affecting students and their families must be considered when deciding on items of uniform. Other considerations, such as body shape or religious requirements should be taken into account in making a final decision on the design and fabric of school uniforms.
6. The school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements should be reviewed at least every five years and amended where necessary. Groups within the school community may also seek a review when circumstances change significantly or issues arise.

IMPLEMENTING SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

1. Positive reinforcement and encouraging responsible behaviour are the preferred approaches to ensuring students wear the school uniform.
2. Everyone has a role in setting the standards for the school. Teachers and other school staff model appropriate standards for students. They should dress in a professional manner.
3. Suspension or expulsion solely for non-compliance with uniform requirements is not to occur. Student enrolment cannot be contingent upon adherence to school uniform policy.
4. Students should not be disadvantaged where required uniform items are not available because of circumstances beyond their control.
5. Conscientious objections by parents to the wearing of school uniform should be respected.
6. Response to students who do not wear uniform must be appropriate. They should be clarified, agreed upon by the school community and documented. Response must be fair and consistent. They must not prevent students from continued participation in essential curriculum activities except where exclusion is necessary for reasons of safety. In this situation, alternative educational activities must be provided
7. Implementation at Falls Creek Public School.
 - a. Promotion of uniform occurs through newsletters, Facebook, Class Dojo, promotion through our school behaviour system (e.g. Respectful, Responsible, Collaborative Learners) informal conversations with individuals and groups of students, purchasing uniforms for those with financial difficulty. Details of uniforms are clarified with students and families.
 - b. For those students who do not comply with uniforms, discussion with student, with families and letter to families.

ARRANGEMENTS WITH CLOTHING SUPPLIERS

1. Arrangements for the supply of uniforms with individual firms, where selected firms receive preference in the placement of orders or publicly, can only be entered into following public tendering.
2. Any change in school uniform has significance not only for students and their parents or carers but also for those agencies that supply school uniforms.
3. Any school which, after a process of consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, proposes a change in school uniform should announce its decision early in the school year preceding the change. All parents or carers and, as far as is practicable, all retailers concerned must be notified. Some schools may need to allow up to three years for change, to enable school uniform shops and others with significant stocks of the uniform to be replaced to prepare.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND DELEGATIONS

1. It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that the school uniform policy is developed and reviewed collaboratively with the school community. Principals must provide parents or carers with the school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements.
2. When a school community agrees on a school uniform, the principal oversees the shared responsibility for ensuring that students are encouraged to wear school uniforms that meet agreed community standards and adhere to legislative requirements.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Standard Uniform	Sports Uniform
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blue polo shirt with school crest• Maroon shorts• Maroon pants• Maroon skort• White or black socks• Sensible shoes or joggers• Maroon zip jacket with school crest• School bucket hat (reversible with sports house)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maroon sport polo shirt with crest• Maroon shorts• School bucket hat (reversible with sports house)• White or black socks• Sensible joggers
Important Notes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maroon shorts, trousers or tracksuit pants worn by any student should NOT have any logos or other colours other than maroon. That includes white piping or stripes. No leggings are to be worn on their own.• Jumpers and jackets are to be Falls Creek Public School jumpers or plain maroon jumpers only.• All hats are to be Falls Creek Public School hats only.• Underclothing including undershirts and stockings are expected to be navy, maroon or neutral colours.• It is preferred that shoes are plain black without coloured laces or any colour. Boots or high tops are NOT part of our school uniform. Shoes should have non slippery soles as they are worn for outdoor activities.• Minimal jewellery only to be worn e.g. small studs, watches, thin necklaces under polo shirts etc. Safety of students is the focus. E.g. NO large earrings, necklaces on top of school shirts etc. Minimal jewellery is worn at students own risk and must be removed for student safety when engaging in PE lessons.• No bracelets are to be worn unless for identification of allergies or healthcare requirements• Any hair accessories must be blue, maroon or neutral colours.• Students are NOT permitted to wear makeup.• Please ensure students names are on all items of clothing.	