



Wheeler's Hill Secondary College Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact WWW.WHSC.VIC.EDU.AU ph:9561 5811

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline WHSC requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes. It has been developed in consultation with DET policy guidelines:

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/guidance/developing-and-reviewing-dress-codes>

This dress code has been developed by WHSC School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support WHSC's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.
- provide a safe and inclusive environment for all students

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families and that options provided are not gender specific.

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Uniform items and appearance requirements should meet human rights and anti-discrimination requirements as well as health and safety considerations.

Our Dress Code aims to be non-discriminatory on the basis of gender or religion. Students and families should have access to uniform options which meet community expectations and the values of the College.

Option One: The full list of Example School's compulsory school uniform items available at Appendix A to this policy.



General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, WHSC students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.
- Students should not vary from the School Dress options unless there are specific grounds to grant an exemption.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics should be kept to a minimum. Only clear or natural shade nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun Safety

Hair and colouring must be appropriate to a school setting. Hair should be kept neat and tidy, and colour should be as natural as possible. **No extremes will be acceptable.**

It is advised that students wear school approved hats or coverings during the summer months when outside

Hats should not be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible

Jackets: Coloured jackets of any description are not to be worn over the school uniform, either at school or while travelling to or from school. The navy college softshell or polar fleece jacket is an option for all year levels.

Tattoos: It is against the law for people under 18 years old to obtain tattoos therefore they are not permitted. Year 12 students who turn eighteen before the end of their final year are advised to wait until they have finished school if they intend on getting any body art. If a student already has a tattoo, it will need to be covered.

Footwear: The required shoes for students are flat, black polishable, leather lace-up or business shoes. Black sports shoes or track shoes are **not** regarded as acceptable footwear and **must not** be worn by students. Under no circumstances can students participate in workshop classes without correct school shoes, even on a casual dress day or with a uniform pass.

While uniform items are divided into summer and winter items, students are able to wear either summer or winter items at any time during the year as long as it is not a combination of summer and winter items. e.g. summer dresses are not to be worn with tights.

Pants/Trousers: Whether tailored or non-tailored, school pants or trousers do **not** include track or fashion pants. Approved uniform items must be purchased from the official WHSC Uniform Supplier, **Lowes** at Knox Shopping Centre.



CASUAL DRESS DAY – DRESS CODE

On casual dress days the college has certain expectations about dress so that school programs are not interrupted and so students are safe.

The following provides a guide as to what students should wear on casual dress days.

- Clothing must not be revealing, for example does not reveal undergarments or excessive skin
E.g. singlet tops.
- Skirts, dresses and shorts must be an acceptable length
- Footwear must be appropriate, for example covered shoes in Science and Technology classes.
No thongs are to be worn. Jewellery/body piercing that poses a threat to health or is considered a safety risk should not be worn. Students will be asked to remove such items.
- Hats, caps or beanies must be removed during class or at the request of teachers. Exceptions for medical reasons will be considered by the Principal.
- Clothing with offensive logos or language are not to be worn.

The College Administration reserves the right to disallow any items not addressed above but are deemed to be obscene, sexually suggestive, a danger to health and safety or offensive. If there is a breach of guidelines students may be excluded from class at the school's discretion.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from:

LOWES, Shop 1001 Knox Ozone Shopping Centre, Knox.

Tel: 9800 3611. www.lowesaus.com.au

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact any member of the Principal Team to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

WHSC also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

WHSC will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, newsletter and student diary. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code, the following consequences will be put in place:

First time without a note	A warning will be issued to the student
Second time without a note.	Lunchtime detention on the day and recorded on school file.
Third Time	Lunchtime detention on the day and parents notified.
Subsequent occasions	Parents/Carer contacted, further disciplinary interventions- refer to Engagement and inclusion Policy.



Note: The Warning and Consequences Mechanism will be re-set each term.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the Principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The Principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

WHSC welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on the school website.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carers/student communication method)
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- WHSC Parent Complaint Policy
- WHSC Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)



- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	22/06/22
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	06/2024

APPENDIX A: WHSC UNIFORM ITEMS

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR YEARS 11 &12

It is school policy that all students wear full uniform.

SUMMER	WINTER
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TROUSERS grey/blue school trousers	TROUSERS grey/blue school trousers
DRESS burgundy check school dress	SKIRT A-line pleated navy OR blue/burgundy check school skirt
SHORTS tailored grey/blue school shorts	SHIRT white school shirt (short or long sleeved) with college VCE logo or Tailored College Shirt
SHIRT white school shirt (short or long sleeved) with VCE logo or Tailored College Shirt	SKIVVY white (must be worn under a long-sleeved shirt)
JUMPER navy blue with VCE logo	JUMPER navy blue with VCE logo
SOCKS grey, black or white socks - if worn with Trousers. plain white socks - if worn with shorts / dresses / skirt	SOCKS grey, black or white socks - if worn with Trousers. plain white socks - if worn with shorts / dresses / skirt
SHOES black polishable leather school shoes (non-gender specific but does not include runners or track shoes)	SHOES black polishable leather school shoes (non-gender specific but does not include runners or track shoes)
SKIRT A-line pleated navy	JACKET WHSC navy blue jacket with logo ONLY WHSC JACKETS MAY BE WORN
	TIGHTS navy blue (if students wish to wear socks with tights for extra warmth, they must be worn UNDERNEATH the tights.)

OPTIONAL :SCHOOL TIE, BLAZER, NAVY BLUE OR WHITE SCARF, NAVY BLUE GLOVES, PLAIN NAVY BLUE PEAKED CAPS OR CAP WITH WHSC LOGO OR BROAD-BRIMMED HAT WITH WHSCLOGO.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & INTER SCHOOL SPORT Years 7 to 12

TOP WHSC Polo shirt with logo, WHSC Rugby top with logo, WHSC Softshelljacket
SHORTS Navy blue only (Logo preferred)
PANTS Navy blue track pants
SOCKS White sport socks or navy blue football socks
SHOES Sport shoes with non-marking soles

Interschool sport students must wear full physical education uniform to and from College. Students who have a scheduled Physical Education class in Period 1 may come to school in full sport uniform. Students who have a scheduled Physical Education class in Period 4 may leave school in full sport uniform. For all other periods, students must change at school.



PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- Full school uniform should be worn neatly to and from school.
- White t-shirts may be worn under shirt but MUST NOT be visible.
- No boots or sneakers are to be worn to school (unless free dress day).

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE CLEARLY AND PERMANENTLY NAMED.



UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS FOR YEARS 7 to 10

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SUMMER	WINTER
TROUSERS grey/blue school trousers	TROUSERS grey/blue school trousers
DRESS burgundy check school dress	SKIRT blue/burgundy check school skirt
SHORTS tailored grey school shorts	SHIRT pale blue open necked, flat tail with WHSC logo preferred or tailored College shirt.
SHIRT pale blue open necked flat tail with WHSC logo preferred or tailored College shirt	SKIVVY navy blue or white (must be worn under a long-sleeved shirt)
JUMPER Burgundy with WHSC logo	JUMPER burgundy with WHSC logo
SOCKS <u>grey, black or white socks</u> - if worn with Trousers. <u>plain white socks</u> - if worn with shorts / dresses / skirt	SOCKS <u>grey, black or white socks</u> - if worn with Trousers. <u>plain white socks</u> - if worn with shorts / dresses / skirt
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