



STUDENT UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE POLICY

Purpose:	<p>At Mastery Schools Australia, we believe the school uniform achieves three important goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It encourages a sense of community identity and pride. By wearing the same badge and the same clothing, pupils are encouraged to think of the needs of the community as well as their own individual needs. 2. It encourages our pupils to develop habits for life. By learning to dress appropriately, pupils learn the habits of discipline and personal responsibility that will stay with them for life. 3. It prevents unkindness or bullying while keeping costs down. By requiring all our pupils to wear the same low-cost uniform, we reduce the incentive for pupils to ask parents for the latest (and most expensive) items of fashion. As a result, costs are kept as low as possible, and no child can be seen to be poorer or wealthier than any other. <p>However, for our uniform policy to be successful, it must be implemented universally and without exception.</p>	
Scope:	<p>We understand that, for some families, finances are tight. We believe that, by doing all we can to keep items of fashion out of school, we help families to keep costs down. Nevertheless, if you do have an individual problem, or you are unsure about an item of clothing, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will assist you.</p>	
Status:	Approved	Supersedes: Nil
Authorised by:	School Governing Body Chairperson	Date of Authorisation: November 2022
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SunSmart Policy ● Cancer Council - SunSmart Campaign 	
Review Date:	Every 2 Years	Next Review Date: November 2025
Policy Owner:	School Governing Body	

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Compulsory Items:

- Mastery Schools Australia shirt
- Navy skirt or shorts
- White socks
- Predominantly black shoes
- Mastery Schools Australia hat

Students are required to wear protective clothing when participating in outdoor activities at all times. Protective clothing includes wearing a Mastery Schools Australia hat. If a student does not have a hat, one will be provided and the parent will receive an invoice for the purchase of the hat.

Mastery Schools Australia has adopted the guidelines from The Cancer Council's 'SunSmart' campaign for children in school environments, therefore Mastery Schools Australia requires all parents to cooperate and support the hat wearing terms detailed within this policy.

Winter uniform additions/alternatives:

- Mastery Schools Australia jacket
- Navy tracksuit pants

Hair

Students (girls and boys) must ensure that their hair does not create a health or safety risk.

We recommend that long hair be 'tied back' as a preventative measure in avoiding / containing the spread of head lice and to prevent accidents occurring e.g. during physical education.

Make-up

Excessive make-up is not permitted. This is deemed to be make-up that contributes to an unnatural look. Students found to be wearing excessive make-up will be asked to remove it immediately.

Jewellery

In the interests of safety, students are to limit the wearing of jewellery. Students may wear a watch, simple sleepers or stud earrings and a signet ring. All other jewellery is considered a potential safety risk at school and may limit a student's ability to participate in the diverse learning activities including sporting activities at school in safety.

Non-approved clothing

If a student comes dressed for school in non-approved clothing items they may be required to wear a school-provided alternative for the school day. Alternatively, a parent / caregiver may be contacted and asked to bring clothing that conforms with the school's dress code.

Inappropriate Dress

Inappropriate dress is defined as clothing that is, or could be deemed to be:

- Offensive;
- Likely to disrupt, or negatively influence, the normal operation of the school;
- Unsafe for student or others;
- Likely to result in a risk to the health of the student or others; and
- Inappropriate in length.

The following are NOT approved nor acceptable as part of the Mastery Schools Australia Uniform Policy:

- Tight and / or shoe-string strap tops
- Patterned shorts/pants and shorts/pants that are not in school colours
- Bike shorts or gym wear (unless for use during physical activity only)
- Non-school jumpers
- Beanies

ITEMS OF RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE

The Principal may grant exceptions to any of the above, but only where this is required as a matter of sincere religious observance and where this can be substantiated by a letter from the leader of the relevant religious community.

The School's decision is final.

CONFISCATIONS

If a Student is wearing any unacceptable items, (s)he will be expected to remove it immediately. The item(s) will be held with school administration, and may be held until a parent is able to collect it

UNIFORM OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Students should either be in their school uniform or their 'home clothes'. There should be no 'mix and match' at all. Pupils are told that, if they wish to wear their home clothes after school, they must return home and change *completely*.

Those Students who are going to after-school activities or clubs that are off-site are permitted to have clothes to change into in their bags. However, in these cases, the parents of the child must inform the School via letter or email.

BREACH OF THE POLICY

Breaches of this policy:

- are not acceptable by any person; and
- will be responded to promptly

REVIEW OF THE POLICY

This policy is reviewed periodically as detailed in the Policy Review Schedule.