

Student Uniform and Appearance Policy

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Policy number | MSA0032 | Version | 1.0 |
| Drafted by | MSA | Approved by board on | August 2024 |
| Responsible person | Principal | Scheduled review date | May 2028 |

Table of Contents

| | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | Organisational Statement | 1 |
| 2 | Scope | 2 |
| 3 | Purpose | 2 |
| 4 | References | 2 |
| 5 | School Uniform | 2 |
| 6 | Sun smart students | 3 |
| 7 | Hair | 3 |
| 8 | Make-up | 3 |
| 9 | Jewellery | 3 |
| 10 | Non-approved clothing | 3 |
| 11 | Exceptions may be granted | 4 |
| 12 | Breach of Policy | 4 |
| 13 | Review | 5 |
| 14 | Communication | 5 |

1 Organisational Statement

- 1.1 Mastery Schools Australia (**the School or MSA**) is committed to fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment that equips students for success both in and beyond the classroom. A key aspect of this commitment is maintaining a school uniform and appearance policy that upholds the School's values, strengthens a sense of belonging, and promotes self-respect and respect for others.
- 1.2 The School also expects all students to adhere to the uniform and appearance policy consistently, ensuring a unified and respectful school culture that supports student wellbeing, equity, and school pride.

2 Scope

This policy applies to all students and parents/guardians in relation to MSA operations, and it is the responsibility of all students and parents/guardians at an MSA school to understand and comply with this policy.

3 Purpose

3.1 This Policy outlines the School's expectations regarding student uniform and appearance across all Mastery Schools Australia (MSA) campuses. It promotes a positive school culture by supporting student safety, wellbeing, equity, and school pride.

3.2 This Policy aims to:

- (a) encourage a sense of belonging, community identity, and school pride through the consistent wearing of the School uniform;
- (b) support a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment;
- (c) strengthen students' sense of belonging and connection to the School community;
- (d) provide clear expectations regarding approved and non-approved clothing items; and
- (e) ensure students are dressed appropriately for all school activities.

4 References

- (a) SunSmart Policy
- (b) Cancer Council - SunSmart Campaign
- (c) Enrolment Agreement

5 School Uniform

5.1 Compulsory Items:

- (a) Mastery Schools Australia shirt
- (b) Plain navy bottoms
- (c) White socks
- (d) Predominantly black closed toe shoes
- (e) Mastery Schools Australia hat

5.2 Winter uniform additions/alternatives:

- (a) Mastery Schools Australia jacket/jumper
- (b) Navy tracksuit pants

6 Sun smart students

- 6.1 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/guardian will receive an invoice for the purchase of the hat.
- 6.2 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/guardians to cooperate and support the hat wearing terms detailed within this policy.

7 Hair

- 7.1 All students must ensure that their hair does not create a health or safety risk. Hair, including facial hair, must be clean and tidy.
- 7.2 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.

8 Make-up

- 8.1 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.

9 Jewellery

- 9.1 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 and other school activities safely

10 Non-approved clothing

- 10.1 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/guardian may be contacted and asked to bring clothing that conforms with the school's dress code.
- 10.2 Students must not wear inappropriate dress. Inappropriate dress is clothing that is, or could be deemed to be:
- (i) Offensive;
 - (ii) Rubber clogs, thongs, sandals, or other open-toe footwear;

- (iii) Likely to disrupt or negatively influence the normal operation of the School;
 - (iv) Unsafe for the student or others;
 - (v) Likely to pose a health or safety risk to the student or others; or
 - (vi) Inappropriate in length.
- (b) The following are NOT approved nor acceptable as part of the Mastery Schools Australia Uniform Policy:
- (i) tight and / or shoe-string strap tops;
 - (ii) patterned bottoms that are not in approved school colours;
 - (iii) bike shorts or gym wear (unless for use during physical activity only);
 - (iv) non-school jumpers or jackets;
 - (v) beanies; or
 - (vi) jeans or denim clothing items of any kind.

11 Exceptions may be granted

- 11.1 The Principal may grant exceptions to any requirements of this Policy for items of religious significance or otherwise to ensure an inclusive School community.
- 11.2 Students, or their parents/guardians, may request such as exception to be granted for matters of sincere religious observance. The request for an exception based on religious significance must be accompanied by a letter from the leader of the relevant religious community.
- 11.3 Other grounds for which an exception may be granted include:
- (a) the needs of students with disability;
 - (b) students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds;
 - (c) gender identity.
- 11.4 When considering a request for an exemption, the Principal must consider:
- (a) The School's child safety and wellbeing obligations;
 - (b) applicable anti-discrimination laws;
 - (c) the values of the School.

12 Breach of Policy

- 12.1 If a student is wearing any unacceptable items, MSA staff may:
- (a) request that student removes those inappropriate items from their dress;

- (b) substitutes those items with a school-provided alternative; and/or
- (c) request a parent or guardians collects that Student so the student can return to School according to the requirements of this Policy.

12.2 Any confiscated item(s) will be held with school administration until a parent is able to collect it.

13 Review

This policy is reviewed periodically as detailed in the policy review schedule. The next review date is May 2028.

14 Communication

This Policy is made available to students and parents/guardians during the enrolment process, is provided to parents/guardians in the enrolment pack and is available on the schools website.



MASTERY
SCHOOLS
AUSTRALIA