

Dress Code Policy

Implemented February 2015

Reviewed November 2020, June 2022, February 2023

Introduction

Dress Code at Southern Cross District High school is an important part of the School ethos. The School Board and Parents and Citizens Association fully endorse the dress code for the following reasons:

- Promotes a positive image of the school and creates a sense of identity among students.
- Ensures students are safely dressed and groomed appropriately for specific school activities.
- Encourages equity among students.
- Keeps the cost of clothing within reasonable limits for parents.
- Assists students to learn the importance of appropriate presentation.

School Uniform Guidelines

Items designated on the current '**Uniform Order Form**' constitute the dress code. For the Primary and Secondary students, in summary this is:

- Polo Shirt – Navy/Sky Blue + logo
- Navy blue dress - logo
- Unisex airflow shorts – Navy
- Skort – navy
- Fleece track pants – navy
- Fleece zip jacket – navy + logo
- Fleecy jumper – navy + logo

Leavers

Staff will liaise with Year 10 students to organise their leavers' jumper/jacket/hoodie which may be worn in place of the School jumper/jacket as part of the uniform.

Country Week

If the secondary students attend Country Week, the country jumper/jacket/hoodie may be worn in place of the School jumper/jacket as part of the uniform.

Head Wear

The school has a "No Hat, No Play" policy for all outdoor activities. Students may choose not to wear their hat in the undercover area only. The following is applicable to the whole school:

- Navy bucket hat with light blue trim and school logo. Style as per P & C Uniform Shop.

Footwear

It is most important for students to maintain high safety standards for footwear. Students without appropriate footwear may not be allowed to participate in some activities.

- Flat soled, lace up or Velcro shoes/joggers only.
- Sandals – flat, Velcro fastened or buckle.

NB: Slip on shoes are not permitted for Physical Education activities. All laces must be secured.

NB: Fully enclosed footwear is compulsory for safety reasons in some areas of Science, D&T and Home Economics.

Personal Presentation

- Uniform items are to be neat and clean.
- Under-garments should not be visible.
- Make up is not permitted.
- Nail polish, glitter or stick on tattoos are discouraged.
- Watches, studs and sleepers (in pierced ears) are the only jewellery permitted.
- Hair dyes / sprays are discouraged.
- Hair that is longer than *collar length* needs to be tied back.

Management

All students, parents and teachers have a role to play in dress code management.

- **STUDENTS** – must be fully aware of the Dress Code, Uniform Difficulties Procedure and sanctions which apply for dress code digressions.
- **PARENTS** – must be fully aware of the Dress Code, check students at home and respond to School communications.
- **STAFF** – all School staff share co-responsibility to manage the Dress Code.

Uniform Difficulties

Where a student cannot comply with the Dress Code, a note of explanation is required from the parent/guardian.

- Students not complying with the dress code will be counselled and resolution of their concerns sought.
- The 3rd uniform infringement by a student will result in the Principal/Deputy Principal/Teacher contacting the parents to discuss possible sanctions and may result in a loss of Good Standing.

Financial Difficulties

Families who may experience financial difficulties regarding the purchase of a uniform should contact the Principal to seek a solution.

Exemptions

Exemptions will be negotiated with the Principal at the time of enrolment. The grounds for exemption or modification relate to health, ethnic considerations, religion or any other matter which in the Principal's opinion is suffice to exempt a student from dress code requirements.

A provision of a temporary exemption will be made to accommodate new students and on the non-availability of dress code items or significant change in student circumstances.

Review

As consultation with the school community has occurred via the School Board and P & C Committee, *it is intended that this policy will have a life of three years or as required before review.*