

Hinton Public School 2014

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY STATEMENT

Rationale:

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.

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 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.

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, e.g. safe, enclosed footwear, eye protection and hats, will need to be enforced as appropriate.

Each school's Uniform Policy must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, including the Parents and Citizens' Association, local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and School Council where relevant. 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.

A school's Uniform Policy should take into account 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.

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.

Wearing of school uniform should be a positive expression of the child's pride in belonging to the school community and should be viewed as an appropriate extension of positive school experiences and practices.

Whilst the Department of School Education policy states that the wearing of school uniform is not compulsory, parents, teachers and students generally support and encourage a school uniform code which is clearly negotiated and defined.

Communication between all parties must be open so that expectations are clearly conveyed and misunderstandings are avoided.

School uniform should be: practical, comfortable, durable, suitable to the climate, modest, appropriate to the growth and development of the students, readily obtainable, affordable, good value for money, neat and attractive.

Outcomes:

A School Uniform code discussed and adopted with sound educational, social and physical principles in mind will lead to the following positive outcomes.

For the Children

Promotion of confidence and common identity through their sense of belonging to and ownership of the school and its community.

Personal comfort and safety in wearing clothing designed for its suitability for the relevant activities.

Security in being recognised as belonging to a group or when separated from a group.

Gains in habits of self discipline which flow on into all work practices.

Minimises distinctions between students.

For the Parent

Economic savings due to durability and design of fabrics and garments.

Ease of laundering.

Promotion of gender equity with clothing items able to be handed down through the family.

For the School

Maintenance of a sense of cohesion and camaraderie.

A physical display of pride and spirit of ownership.

Recognition simplifies control of children on outings.

Public recognition on excursions, at performances and at sporting events.

Implementation:

While reaffirming the importance of school uniform, this school community believes that the wearing of a uniform should:

- ❖ Be a positive educational, social and individual experience.
- ❖ Be worn, where possible, when home resources are adequate (or easily supplemented).
- ❖ Be determined and reviewed by a Uniform Committee comprising members of the whole school community (students, teachers and parents / carers with students enrolled at the school) and co-ordinated by the P & C Association.
- ❖ Be supported and maintained by the provision of a school based clothing pool with limited supplies.
- ❖ Have a Lost Property facility available.
- ❖ Be available at a subsidy for economically disadvantaged families.
- ❖ The Student Assistance Scheme may be used to assist in this area.

For safety and social reasons, the following clothing is considered unsuitable for school wear:

- ❖ Unnecessary jewellery, earrings (sleepers or studs can be worn) and nail polish.
- ❖ Thongs or open toed footwear
- ❖ Clothing featuring unseemly messages.
- ❖ Any items of clothing preventing children's constant safety.

Sunsafe Policy

To support our school's commitment to the Sunsafes Policy, hats are part of school uniform. Hats are available for purchase from the Uniform Committee. Children will wear the school hat when playing as a protection from the sun's harmful rays. All children participating in sports and PE activities at school and away from school are required to wear the correct school hat.

Name Tags

It is advisable that all articles of school uniform have a name tag for easy identification.

Lost Property

Any articles of uniform or property that are found are kept in a Lost Property Box in the COLA. Please make enquiries to school office. All efforts to trace owners of lost property are carried out giving need to the importance of clearly labelling items of uniform and personal property. Those items without identification will be kept at school for a period of one month before being sent to the Clothing Pool.

If a uniform is not available for some reason, the school relies on the sensible judgement of parents and care givers to select garments which are simple and appropriate to the occasion.

Procedure for reviewing, changing or making additions to the school uniform

The following procedure must take place if there is a proposal for a change or addition to the school uniform. Note: cosmetic or minor changes to a part of the uniform because of changes to the supplier will be made by the Principal and the Uniform Committee after consultation with the P & C.

- ❖ 1.1
The school community seeks a change, review or to make alterations to the school uniform when circumstances change significantly, issues arise or 5 years has elapsed since the last review.
- ❖ 1.2
A notice to change, review or to make additions to the school uniform is to be tabled at a P & C meeting. This notice must be nominated and signed by a parent or caregiver (guardian) of present students of the school and be passed by a two thirds majority of those present at the P&C meeting.
- ❖ 1.3
Should the meeting agree (by majority vote) to the proposed changes, review or alterations a Uniform Sub-Committee shall be formed to investigate and decide upon style, colour, suppliers or any other uniform requirements. The Uniform Committee shall recommend two possible options to the P&C. The P&C will vote on the recommendations.

- ❖ 1.4
If the vote is successful, the Uniform Committee and P&C shall recommend the two possible options to the school population, including parents / caregivers (guardians) of currently enrolled students, current school staff and enrolled students will be surveyed on the proposed options.

- ❖ 1.5
The data will be collected and analysed. To be successful in changing or making additions to the school uniform, a greater than 50% return rate is required with the majority of those in favour of the change.

- ❖ 1.6
The findings will be discussed with the Principal and the Uniform Committee and a recommendation made to the General Meeting of the P&C.

- ❖ 1.7
The recommendation will be announced during the year in which the change is to be implemented. There will be a 24 month 'lead in' period before full implementation.

- ❖ 1.8
The uniform will be reviewed every 5 years or at the discretion of the P&C in accordance with 1.1

Uniform

Summer

Boys

Gold polo shirt with Logo
 Grey drill shorts
 Grey socks
 Black shoes or Black joggers
 School hat

Girls

Gold polo shirt with logo
 Green school skirt or
 Bottle green shorts
 White socks
 Black shoes or Black joggers
 School hat

Winter

Gold polo shirt with Logo
 Long grey drill pants or
 Bottle green track pants
 Bottle green jumper with Logo
 Grey socks
 Black shoes or Black joggers
 School hat

Gold polo shirt with logo
 Green school skirt or
 Bottle green tailored long pants

 Bottle green track pants
 Bottle green jumper with logo
 White socks
 Black shoes or Black joggers
 School hat

Sports Uniform

Boys

Gold polo shirt with Logo
Bottle green shorts
White socks
Joggers
School hat
Bottle green tracksuit

Girls

Gold polo shirt with Logo
Bottle green shorts
Bottle green sports skirt
White socks
Joggers
School Hat
Bottle green tracksuit

Lost Property:

Children lose clothes etc very easily – our lost property collection testifies to this – it is requested that all items of clothing (and other property) be clearly marked for easy identification. (See Label Clothing).

Clothing Outlets:

School Uniform Shop
Local stockists (as advised by uniform co-ordinator)

Uniform Pool:

The P&C operates a uniform pool from which clean, usable items may be purchased at modest costs from time to time. Parents are asked to donate to the pool, items of clothing that no longer fit, and items no longer required when the student moves on to High School.