



Mount Lilydale Mercy College Uniform Policy Implementation Guidelines

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The College uniform is important in establishing a sense of belonging to the College community. For all students, wearing the uniform correctly should be a reflection of both self-respect and College spirit. Uniform standards have the capacity to signal a message to the community at large about the quality of the College. Poor dress standards are very disheartening for many staff, students and parents and signal low disciplinary standards. Uniform is an area where an immediate and noticeable impact can be made provided standards are supported all by members of our community.

2. PURPOSE

2.1. The following detailed list is designed to ensure clarity regarding our uniform requirements:

Summer

- Black leather lace-up school shoes with standard sized heel are the only shoes permitted without a medical certificate. For safety reasons, the College shoes must completely cover all of the foot. T-bar or 'dolly' shoes are not permitted.
- Short sleeved, College white shirt. The summer shirt is a tailored ('jack') shirt which may be worn in or out when the shirt is the outer garment provided that the shirt does not reach below the hips or below the jumper or blazer.
- No visible t-shirts or designs on t-shirts underneath shirt.
- College pinhead fabric grey trousers / regulation grey, fully tailored shorts. (NB: pants should be worn around the waist, not on the hip or below)
- Black leather belt.
- College summer dress worn to the knee or longer. The tie at the back must not be tampered with to change the style of the dress.
- College jumper.
- College blazer to and from home as outer garment.
- College socks
 - When wearing trousers or shorts the official College grey socks worn with coloured bands clearly visible above the ankles, not folded into the shoe.
 - When wearing summer dress long white socks, not folded into the shoe or regulation white socks.
- Approved College Sun Smart hat purchased as part of the uniform requirements. This is the only hat that is permitted to be worn and is compulsory in Terms 1 and 4. All parents

of new students are advised that approved hats are available through the official Uniform Supplier.

- Approved Cancer Council sun glasses (Optional).

Winter

- Black leather lace-up school shoes with standard sized heel are the only shoes permitted without a medical certificate (for safety reasons, the College shoes must completely cover all of the foot). T-bar or 'dolly' shoes are not permitted.
- Long school pinhead fabric grey trousers (no shorts allowed).
- College winter skirt worn to the knee or longer.
- Long sleeve white shirt with top button done up. Shirts tails should be tucked in at all times except when students are directly involved in sporting activities at lunchtime or recess.
- Tie correctly done up to the neck.
- Black leather belt.
- College jumper.
- College blazer to and from home as outer garment.
- College socks – official College grey socks worn with coloured bands clearly visible above the ankles, not folded into the shoe.
- Regulation navy, cotton blend tights (NB must be worn with the winter skirt)
- Navy or white neck scarf permitted (as provided by the uniform shop).

Sport uniform

- College Sports Jacket with embroidered crest (must be worn to and from school as the outer garment).
- College track pants with embroidered badge (must be worn to and from school as the outer garment in Terms 2 and 3).
- College Sports Rugby top (optional).
- College polo top with embroidered crest.
- Sports shorts with embroidered crest. Worn to mid-thigh.
- White Sport socks that are free from advertising.
- Runners (appropriate for all types of strenuous physical activity). Casual sneakers/sport shoes are not accepted.

Jewellery

- No jewellery is permitted in the form of rings, bangles or chains. The only jewellery permissible is that of a religious nature which is not visible, or an SOS medical notification.
- Two sleeper/studs are permitted in each ear with at least one in the lower lobe of each ear.
- Plastic earrings or band aids covering earrings are not permitted.
- No visible body piercing such as eyebrow, face, lip, or nose piercing is permitted.
- Tattoos are prohibited.

- Inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated.

Hairstyles

- Extremes of hairstyles such as (but not limited to) tails, mohawks, dreadlocks or undercuts are not permitted.
- Hair length between back and sides may differ, but only in the instance that the side length is no shorter than a No.3 Clipper. The back should not be longer than the collar. Otherwise, the sides and back must be a consistent length. Please note the dot point above.
- Haircuts with No. 3 clippers or higher are acceptable. Extremely short or shaved hair and multicoloured, unnatural or extreme hair colours not permitted.
- Hair that touches the collar, shoulder length hair or longer, must be tied back and kept off face for health and safety reasons. Half up and half down styles are not permitted.
- Students may wear navy blue, white or yellow ribbons. Other colours are not permitted. Butterfly clips are not permitted. Bobbie pins and plain clips are acceptable.
- Students must be clean shaven. No facial hair is acceptable. Students will be asked to report to school the following day clean shaven. Failure to do so will result in them being sent home.
- False eyelashes or eyelash extensions are not permitted.

Make up

- Make up is not permitted, except for a limited amount of foundation which contains SPF 30+.
- Nail polish is not to be worn.

Shoes

- Black leather lace-up shoes with standard sized heels are required. If shoes are damaged or if students grow out of them, parents should endeavour to replace them as soon as possible. If this presents a financial difficulty for parents, parents can have the matter dealt with discreetly through an appropriate Year Level Leader. Students may bring runners to school for use in sporting activities at recess and lunchtime, but they must change into their correct shoes for classes and for travelling home from school.

Waterproof coat & umbrellas

- A waterproof coat may be purchased from the Uniform Shop for use on rainy days in order to keep the blazer dry. This coat may be worn at recess and lunchtime but not to class. Students are encouraged to bring umbrellas to school on days when rain is expected.

College backpack

- Students should use the official College backpack, which should remain graffiti free at all times.

Uniform notes from parents

- If students are unable to wear the correct uniform, they are required to bring a note from home explaining the situation. Notes should be given to the relevant Year Level Leader at the start of the day. Such notes will, in most cases, be valid for no more than two days.

Travelling To and From School

- Students are reminded that they should be in full College uniform from the moment they leave home until they arrive home at the end of the day. Blazers must be worn to and from school. The exception to this is throughout February when the wearing of the blazer is optional.
- If students are not travelling home immediately after school and remain in school uniform, they must wear the full uniform correctly as they are continuing to represent the College. If students are with their parents after school, parents should ensure their child's uniform is being worn correctly.
- Students participating in rehearsals, dance practice, music lessons or any other activity immediately after school must wear the full school uniform when they do eventually travel home.
- Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 students may wear full sports uniform to and from school on days they are scheduled for sport. This means that they must wear the sports jacket and track pants (Terms 2 and 3) to and from school. Alternatively, students may wear full school uniform to and from school and change into sports attire at school.

Deodorant Spray Cans

- Because of the impact on asthmatics and others, students are asked not to bring spray deodorants to school. Roll-on or pump deodorants are preferred.

General

- All items of clothing must be the approved uniform. Senior students representing the College in weekly inter-school competition must wear the appropriate uniform for their sport. If unable to wear the appropriate sport uniform, the student cannot participate in EISM competitions.
- The student's name should be clearly printed on each item of clothing.

Sanctions

- Correct wearing of the uniform should be the responsibility of each student. This responsibility encourages self-discipline, which is a vital part of our students' movement towards adulthood. It is unnecessary and unfortunate if uniform becomes a source of conflict between staff and students. Parents are expected to support the College by ensuring their child is correctly attired according to school regulations (see Responsible Behaviour Policy).

Consequences for Uniform Breaches

- Staff will not argue with students who are not following these requirements. Consequences will apply and students who do not follow the uniform expectations will be required to make the appropriate changes in their behaviour and failure to do so in a prompt manner will lead to their exclusion from our community until they do so.

Special Year 12 Variations

- The final year of secondary education is a special year for students, many of whom reach their legal 'majority' during this year. In recognition of the greater maturity of the Year 12 students, special arrangements can be made, on an annual basis, for a variation of the uniform for Year 12 students only. Such a variation will require the students themselves making a formal application to the Principal. Following receipt of the application, a process of consultation will be undertaken prior to the approval being granted to individuals to wear special items of clothing for part or all of this year. Such items of clothing will be in accord with the uniform rationale articulated in this policy. Any such variation to the uniform will be optional for individual students.

Special Co-curricular Activities

- Some co-curricular activities may choose to design and wear activity t-shirts or wind cheaters. The design of such items must be approved by the Principal before being manufactured. These clothing items must not contain the College crest without specific approval. Such clothing items may be worn during the specific activity, but may not be worn at school during normal College hours without prior written approval from the Principal.

APPENDIX 1 – CASUAL CLOTHES DAYS GUIDELINES

Casual Clothes Day Guidelines

Casual Clothes Days are organised as a part of the fundraising activities of the College. As with any other school day, students are expected to wear neat and tidy serviceable clothes that avoid extremes in fashion.

Prior to such an event there will be extensive publicity undertaken with students and parents as to the acceptable standard of dress for a Casual Clothes Day.

The final decision as to what is acceptable rests with the relevant Campus Director. In the event of student dress not complying with these guidelines on a casual clothes day, the parent / guardian will be contacted and asked to bring appropriate clothing to school or arrangements will be made for the parent/guardian to collect their child from school.

Participation in a casual clothes day is optional. Should a student choose not to participate then he/she must wear full school uniform.

As a general guide to what is an appropriate standard of dress for such occasions the following points are made:

- All tops must cover the shoulders and should not be low cut.
- All tops should be of sufficient length to cover the midriff.
- Tops should not be see-through.
- Shorts, skirts and dresses should be of a reasonable length - mid thigh or longer.
- Shirts and t-shirts should not have inappropriate or offensive logos or messages.
- Singlet tops are not to be worn.
- All footwear must completely cover the foot as a safety measure. Sandals or thongs are not permitted.
- If a student has a Sport / PE practical lesson on the day their clothing should be of a nature that allows them to participate in the lesson.
- Normal jewellery and make up requirements apply on the day.

College Camps and Excursions

Generally speaking, the guidelines for casual clothes days apply to all camps and excursions, recognising that some activities require specialist equipment / clothing that may vary because of the nature of the activity.

REVIEW HISTORY

Version	Date Released	Next Review	Author	Authorised by:
2.0	June 2023	June 2026	Deputy Principal Pastoral Care	MLMC Executive

Version control added to policy commencing with V2.0 All previous versions are called 1.0 and have been archived and stored accordingly