



Montrose Bay High Dress Code and Uniform Policy

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Version 1.0 – 20/10/2020

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1. Purpose

The purpose of a School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy (the Policy) is to promote social equity in terms of clothing, assisting school staff in easily identifying students and enhancing the sense of pride within a school. The Policy is in accordance with [Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code](#) and developed in consultation with the School Association and students.

2. Policy objectives

- Promote a shared sense of school identity and ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- Strengthen the profile and identity of the school and its students within the broader community
- Assist school staff to easily identify students on school excursions and on the school campus
- Encourage students to take pride in their appearance
- Prepare learners for the expectations of the workplace
- Identify the process for establishing a dress code, or uniform and who is required to wear one
- Identify the process for granting exemptions to a dress code or uniform.

3. Key information

- State schools for students from Prep to Year 10 inclusive **MUST** have a school uniform. It is a requirement that these students wear the uniform their school endorses.
- To ensure that the requirements of [Education Act 2016](#) and the Secretary's Instruction are met, the school **MUST**:
 - » Allow exemptions and /or criteria to evaluate applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy, where individual circumstances make it difficult to adhere to the Policy and would outweigh the benefits of compliance.
 - » Provide students with gender neutral options (i.e. unisex) in addition to any male and female specific items.
 - » Endorse a uniform that is cost effective. (Schools should consider providing uniform banks to support families experiencing hardship to meet uniform requirements.)
- A principal with students enrolled outside of Prep to Year 10 can choose to require all students to wear the uniform. This **MUST** be established through a dress code, and **MUST** include consultation with the School Association and students.
- Consultation with the School Association can be done by requesting the School Association Committee to include dress code/uniform as an agenda item at a Committee meeting. The school can promote that consultation is underway and invite parents to provide feedback through the Committee.
- A dress code **may** stipulate requirements around personal appearance and grooming.
- When introducing a new dress code or uniform, a transition period of 12 months is recommended to allow time for the Policy to be understood and adhered to.

4. Requirements

The Policy applies during school activities (including out-of-hours or off-site activities), on school campus and while travelling to or from school (while wearing school uniform), unless an exemption has been granted.

5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1 PRINCIPALS

- **MUST** have a uniform for students from Prep and Year 10 inclusive.
- **MUST** detail the processes for exemptions from the dress code or uniform.
- **MUST** detail a review process for any applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy.
- **May** develop and implement a dress code.
- **MUST** detail how non-compliance with dress code or uniform will be dealt with under the school's *Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process*.
- **MUST** consult with the School Association when developing a dress code or uniform.
- **MUST** consult with students when developing a dress code or uniform.

Where the decision is made to develop a dress code, a principal **MUST**:

- Ensure compliance with legislation including: *Education Act 2016*, *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*, *Sex Discrimination Act 1984*, *Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (TAS)* and *Racial Discrimination Act 1975*.
- Consult with their School Association and students to ensure the Policy reflects the views of the school.
- Include requirements on the wearing of hats in line with the Cancer Council of Tasmania's 'Sun Smart' Program. (See the DoE [Sun Protection Policy](#) for further information.)
- Identify how the non-compliance with the Policy will be managed under the school's *Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process*.

5.2 TEACHING STAFF

- **MUST** ensure compliance with any dress code and uniform by following the processes established by the school to address non-compliance.

5.3 PARENTS/CARERS AND STUDENTS

- **MUST** ensure compliance with the Policy, or apply for an exemption.

6. Uniform items

Plain Grey school shorts or trousers (NOT denim)

MBHS White cotton business style shirt

Navy Blue woollen 'V' neck jumper

MBHS Navy Blue track pants (NO stripes)

MBHS Navy Blue sports tights

Navy Blue/orange spliced polo shirt

MBHS Rugby Jumper

Navy Blue/orange tracksuit top

Navy Blue scarf

Navy Blue striped MBHS skirt to be worn with navy blue tights (NOT Black) or white ankle socks if desired

School Navy Blue unisex shorts to be worn with any of the above polo shirts or white cotton shirt

Grey school shorts for the formal uniform

Striped summer dress

- **HATS** – If not under shade students are encouraged to wear hats/caps for protection from the sun – hats are to be worn outside the building only.
- **JEWELLERY** – the wearing of jewelry with the school uniform is discouraged. However, for those who wish to do so, the following items are acceptable:

A simple short neck chain, a watch, small sleepers or studs (one or two per ear), one ring, one well-fitting bracelet. Multiple bracelets are not acceptable.
- For safety reasons the school does not support large spacers or spikes, nose rings or bull rings, no facial piercings that are rings or bar piercings or multiple face piercings.
- **HAIR** – Long hair is acceptable but poses problems of safety and hygiene in many situations such as workshops. In these situations, students should wear a cap or secure the hair firmly at the back of the head.
– Extreme variations in hair colour are not acceptable.
- **MAKE UP** – Very minimal use is permitted

- **FOOTWEAR** - Footwear should be sturdy and enclosed to meet Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines. This is particularly important in areas which have specific safety issues such as MDT, Home Economics and Science. If unsafe footwear is worn, students may be unable to participate in practical activities in these subject areas. Sturdy shoes are to be worn with the school uniform.



Students should wear shoes that provide good support for their feet (eg lace ups or “Mary Janes” style. Shoes that do not adequately cover feet will not be allowed to be worn in workshops, kitchens or science labs).

(Students should change to appropriate sports footwear before Health & Wellbeing classes).

OTHER INFORMATION

The following items **are not** uniform at Montrose Bay High School:

- Jacket other than the MBHS jacket, blazer, leavers top and school puffer jacket.
- Visible T-shirt worn under either uniform shirt.
- Black track pants, baggy blue pants, “cargo” pants, leggings or shorts with large leg pockets.
- Long baggy shorts that come well below the knee, and brief shorts.
- Beanies.
- Hooded windcheater.

Non school uniform jumpers and jackets are not permitted. A raincoat is however, permitted in wet weather.

The following items of clothing will **not** be accepted as part of the school uniform:

- Stripes, tags, large brand logos or offensive motifs on shirts, tops, hats, shorts or trousers.
- Denim jeans or shorts. This includes all forms of stretch denim.
- Hooded jumpers or windcheaters.
- Visible t-shirts or skivvies underneath school shirts. This includes long sleeves worn under short-sleeved shirts and long T-shirts worn under short skirts. (When T-shirts are worn in the colder weather as singlets, they must be either plain blue or white)
- Multi-coloured or coloured long socks (white is preferred)
- Bare midriffs, leggings or other indiscreet attire. (This also applies to all school activities including free dress days)
- High top or Fluoro shoes

7. Requirements

7.1 UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

If you need support with your child's uniform, you can talk to your child's teacher or principal to discuss your family's eligibility for support or assistance in the purchase of school uniforms.

All students enrolled at Montrose Bay High will be expected to be in the MBHS uniform.

The school expects all students to wear the recommended and practical school uniform at school, and generally during school functions and while on school excursion. By wearing this dress, students take a greater pride in their appearance and identify with the school.

Parents ask that we maintain this policy of school uniform.

Parents and students have selected the designs and colours of uniform items, It is expected that new parents to the school will support the School Association and the staff of the school by ensuring that their children wear the school uniform with pride.

7.2 SUN SMART POLICY

- **SUNSCREEN** – Sunscreen is provided by the school at Student Administration. Students are encouraged to wear hats in high UV times.

7.3 SCHOOL-SPECIFIC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Protective clothing – *Materials, Design & Technology, Home Economics and Art*

- **Design and Technology** – Aprons are readily available for students to use in all practical subjects. Students are encouraged to wear aprons for the protections of personal clothing. Hearing protection is also supplied. All students must wear personal eye protection and the use of dust masks is advised in some working conditions.
- **Home Economics** – Aprons must be worn at all times.
- **Art** – An apron is supplied for the protections of personal clothing

Clothing – Protective

For safety reasons, high-heeled shoes, sandals, ugg boots, thongs, slippers and long or hooped earrings will not be permitted.

8. Dress code

Refer to uniform items

9. Exemptions

Parents may seek an exemption from compliance with elements of the school's Policy. This will be granted where the Principal considers that it is in the best interests of the student to allow such an exemption. When deciding whether to grant an exemption, the Principal will consider:

- Offering a grace period for new students starting partway through the school year to comply with the Policy and acquire any uniform items.
- Religious beliefs, cultural background and/or individual needs (e.g. sensory issues).

- Uniform exemptions may be granted for 'free dress day'. Free dress clothing must be sun safe, should not display inappropriate or offensive logos, images or slogans, and closed-toe footwear must be worn.
- Uniform exemptions may be required for specific school activities where it would not be appropriate for a student to be in uniform/comply with dress code (i.e. swimming, surfing, farming/ agriculture) or where uniform would not be visible due to protective or specialised clothing (i.e. automotive, trades or chemistry).

7.2 REQUESTING AN EXEMPTION

To request an exemption a parent/carer or independent student **MUST**:

- speak to your child's teacher or grade leader;
- list any requirements that are of concern; and
- nominate the requested length of exemption from the requirements.

For exemptions requested for five or less consecutive school days, the principal **MUST**:

- consider the request and notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.

For exemptions requested for more than five consecutive school days, the principal **MUST**:

- respond in writing to notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- include the timeframes if an exemption is granted;
- maintain a record of the exemption in the student's file; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.

8. Non-compliance with dress code or uniform

- Students out of uniform are referred to the Grade Coordinator.
- Student is to remain out of the playground at recess and lunch. The student may sit with a friend.
- Students have the opportunity to borrow, for the day, uniform items from the Grade Coordinator.

Parents will be contacted if students are consistently out of uniform.

9. Associated documents and materials

Documents and materials	Purpose
<u>Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code</u>	To set out the matters that a principal is to take into account in developing a dress code for the students at their school.
<u>Sun Protection Policy</u>	Outlines the requirements for a Sun Protection Policy to ensure the safety of staff, students and children in relation to exposure to the sun.
Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process	When addressing non-compliance with the student dress code or uniform, a principal should refer to their <i>Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process</i> .
Checklist for School Student Dress Code and Uniform	The Checklist can be used to ensure a dress code or uniform policy is compliant with the legislation and Secretary's Instruction.

10. Definitions

DRESS CODE means a set of requirements for how students should present themselves when attending or representing their school. As well as specifying clothing, a dress code may include personal presentation and appearance. There is no requirement for a school to have a dress code; however if a school has a dress code:

- For students in Prep to Year 10 it includes the wearing of a uniform.
- For students in Kindergarten, and Years 11 and 12 it may include a standard of dress and/or a uniform.

UNIFORM means a distinct set of clothing worn by members of the same organisation, and may include a school emblem and colour scheme. A uniform is required for students in Prep to Year 10.

Authorised by:	Trudy Pearce
Position of authorising person:	Deputy Secretary Learning
Date authorised:	31 January 2020
Principal authorisation:	
Date authorised:	
Developed by:	Strategic Policy and Planning
Date of last review:	31 January 2020
Date of next review:	
This document replaces:	