



**ST STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**School Board Policy**  
**School Uniform Policy**



**VISION STATEMENT**

*To Know Jesus ~ To Inspire Learning ~ To Respect Each Other*

**Rationale**

*This policy highlights the importance of a School Uniform as an important aspect of St Stephen's Catholic School's image and general philosophy.*

*The wearing of school uniform:*

- *allows students to identify with their school community and to state clearly that they belong to, and are loyal to that community and its Catholic principles.*
- *provides parents with a practical, economical means to appropriately clothe their children for school life.*
- *reduces the competition and pressure for particular styles of clothing and differences in socio-economic backgrounds of school families are made less apparent.*
- *contributes to the development of self-discipline and good grooming habits in students.*
- *allows members of the wider community to identify students with our school.*
- *ensure modest and appropriate dress for students in a Catholic School context.*

**Values**

*The St Stephen's Catholic School Fees Policy gives expression to the values of responsibility, equity, dignity, equality, self-discipline, commitment and community.*

**Policy Statement**

*As a member of St. Stephen's Catholic School community, it is expected that each student will wear the regulation school uniform, as endorsed by the School Board.*

**Consequences**

- *Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform as endorsed by the School Board and published in the School Handbook.*
- *The uniform should be worn well, that is, shirts tucked in, uniforms neat and tidy and in good condition.*
- *Parents/guardians will notify the school when their child is unable to wear the correct uniform, to cover a short period only.*
- *Where there are long term problems with items of school uniform not being worn, parents/guardians will be contacted for an interview.*

- *Proposed changes to school uniform with associated reasons should be notified to the Principal who will refer the matter to the School Board should there be sufficient evidence for the proposal.*
- *The School Board will decide if an investigation into a uniform selection or change should proceed.*
- *The process of uniform selection and change will be managed by the School Board through the establishment of a uniform sub-committee consisting of: the Principal as co-ordinator; one Parents and Friends Executive representative; one staff representative; and three parent representatives.*

Date of Issue: 2012

Date of Review: 31.3.2015

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Mrs Belinda Saal  
St Stephen's Catholic School  
Board Chair

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Ms Madonna Sleba  
St Stephen's Catholic School  
Principal

Policy approved: 31.3.15

Review date: 2018

## School Uniform Policy - Appendix

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Since its inception, the School Board, through the recommendations of its uniform sub-committee, has determined the standards of dress and uniform requirements of the school.

Having determined these, the Board, as the body representing the wider school community, has requested the Principal and the staff of the school ensure the standards are maintained.

These standards include:

- All students are expected to attend each school day in full school uniform. The uniform should be worn well e.g., shirts tucked in.
- It is expected that students may be excluded from school activities, particularly formal occasions, if they choose not to comply with uniform requirements.

### IMPLEMENTATION

- At the end of each school year and the beginning of the next the school clearly outlines its uniform requirements. This is done through the publication of the Handbook, letters home to parents, briefing of students and reminders in the Newsletter.
- Students not in full school uniform are expected to bring a note explaining the reason. In practice most notes relate to temporary problems e.g. washing in wet weather.
- Where there are long term problems with items of school uniform the parents/guardians are urged to meet with the principal and discuss the situation.
- The uniform standard is monitored randomly in roll call. Those not in full uniform are cautioned to bring a note to explain irregularities. Persistent disregard to these requests is treated as a failure to follow school rules, parents are notified and disciplinary action can follow. The school does not seek to harass or embarrass students over uniform. We seek compliance with the uniform requirements as it is in the best interest of all students of the school.

### UNIFORM POLICY PROCEDURES

1. For those that are out of school uniform in some way, these are the procedures:

- Roll call check by class teacher.
- Out of uniform, check for parent note. If no note is available, inform the student of school policy re obtaining a note from parents.
- There should be 2 warnings for production of uniform note. If after two warnings there is no action the class teacher issues a uniform letter - duly modified – which requires a parent/guardian response. If there is no change in uniform/reply slip explaining why, the student may face detention until the change in uniform or reply slip is obtained.

## 2. Standards we would be seeking:

- Full school uniform is to be worn at school and on the following occasions.
- All formal assemblies when a student is to be presented on stage.
- All excursions requiring full school uniform.
- Representing the school – sporting teams.
- The rule is: If a student is not in full school uniform he/she may not participate.
- If students fail to follow reasonable directions about the wearing of uniform, staff members may well consider it a matter of disobedience and apply appropriate sanctions.

### In Summary:

The ultimate effectiveness of the school's uniform policy rests with the vigilance, persistence and consistency of all parents, students and staff. If we all work together, with the same standards framework, the students will know to wear full school uniform properly or face the consequences.

## UNIFORM AND GROOMING GUIDELINES

### Wearing uniform off the school site

Students wearing uniform off the school site (travelling to and from school, shopping after school, on excursions) are expected to remain in complete uniform and obey all grooming requirements.

### Leaving the school in the afternoon

Students leaving the school at the end of the day are expected to wear full uniform properly. Some after school activities necessitate students changing before leaving school. In this case they should completely remove all uniform items, and leave in "civilian" clothes.

### Size and condition of uniform items

- All uniform items should be of a size appropriate to the wearer. In particular, oversized pullovers and sports shirts are not acceptable.
- Uniforms items should be replaced when excessively faded, torn (unless tidily repaired), worn or undersized.

### Hair

Students should wear their hair in a clean, neat and tidy manner.

- Girls' hair should be tied back if it extends beyond their collar.
- Boys' hair should not be touching the collar. If a boy's hair touches the collar it must be tied back at all times.
- Fringes should not extend below the eyebrows.
- Hair that could fall over the face should be tied back securely.
- Extreme hairstyles, including shaved or "number 1", mowhawks, tracks, dreadlocks and extreme undercuts are not acceptable.
- Hair should not be coloured to an unnatural colour or pattern.

Hair Accessories (including ribbons) should be discreet and in the colours of green and/or gold. Scrunchies made from the matching uniform material can be worn. (Black hair elastics are permissible).

## Hats

- School hats are to be worn for all outside activities all year round for all students (including coming to and from school).
- Hats may only be removed when outside to complete specific activities which are impossible to complete wearing a hat. They should be replaced immediately the activity is completed.
- Hats may be removed when under full shade. Trees do not provide full shade.
- Hats in poor condition or with writing on the outside or underside of brim will be required to be replaced.
- Hats should be worn outside for all school activities, even those not requiring the wearing of uniform. Non-uniform hats may be worn when students are out of uniform, but the style must provide a level of sun protection equivalent to the school hats. Peaked caps are less effective than wide brimmed hats.

## Jewellery

### Earrings

Females only with pierced ears may wear one pair of plain studs, small sleepers, or small plain hoops in the earlobes, one in each ear. Additional piercings, earrings, fancy earrings, or large earrings are not permitted. Certain physical activities may require the complete removal of earrings for safety reasons.

### Rings

Wearing of rings is discouraged, as safety issues can arise during a variety of school activities.

One signet type ring of particular sentimental significance may be worn by male and female students if necessary.

### Necklaces and Chains

Necklaces, chains and other jewellery worn around the neck should not be worn while in school uniform. (Medical information or religious chains may be worn).

### Other Jewellery Items

Other than wristwatches, items of jewellery not mentioned in the above should not be worn while in school uniform.

## Makeup

- Coloured nail polish is not permitted. If worn outside school, coloured nail polish should be removed completely before arriving at school.
- Nails should be neatly trimmed and false nails are not permitted.

## Sunglasses

The wearing of sunglasses when outside is optional. Students who elect to wear sunglasses should ensure that their glasses comply with AS 1067. Neutral coloured frames are preferred. Sunglasses provided by the school. Parents may provide sunglasses, however they must be of a similar style and be approved by the Principal.

## Additional underwear

Students may choose to wear additional layers of clothing under their school uniform such as thermal underwear. However, these **MUST NOT BE VISIBLE**. In particular, t-shirt neckbands and sleeves protruding from sports

shirts, or dark coloured and patterns showing through shirts are not acceptable.

#### Sports shirts

- Sports shirts may be worn untucked.
- When tracksuit jackets are worn, the sports shirt should not protrude below the tracksuit jacket. If necessary, the shirt should be tucked in.

#### Style of uniforms

Only the styles listed in the Handbook are to be worn.

Boy's shorts are specified as Grey Stubbies shorts Stubbies Style BCS37NO or BCS5700. Board shorts, football shorts, shorts with extra-long legs (on or below the knee) and similar styles are not acceptable.

#### Girl's Socks

Socks must be ankle socks which properly cover the ankle and be clearly visible above the shoe. Girls Dress and Sports Uniform socks are white.

#### Girl's Stockings - dress uniform

Girls are permitted to wear bottle green tights during the winter.

#### Boy's Socks

Socks must be ankle socks which properly cover the ankle and be clearly visible above the shoe.

Dress Uniform socks are grey and Sport Uniform socks are white.

#### Shoes

All black leather jogger or all black leather school shoes are the required footwear. When training is on, for example for cross country, other shoes may be brought to school and changed into for training only.

#### Identification and Ownership

All uniform items should be clearly and appropriately labelled with the current owner's name. (Printed labels are highly recommended).

#### CONSEQUENCES OF BREACHING THE POLICY

The uniform policy is monitored by the class teacher however every teacher has a responsibility to ensure that Uniform is worn correctly.

In the first instance the class teacher asks to see a note to explain why the student is out of uniform. If no note or acceptable reason is given then the following may occur:

- Warning,
- Note is sent home to parents, detention.