



Dress Code / Uniform Policy

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Education Regulation 189A of the Administrative Instructions and Guidelines, School Councils are authorised to determine the school dress policy. In 1995, School Council passed the following motion: "The Council endorses the implementation of a uniform policy offering a specific range of colour coded items."

RATIONALE

We believe that a school dress code:

- contributes to whole school unity and pride
- develops individual self-esteem through the feeling of "belonging"
- contributes to the development of a supportive school environment, by reducing levels of competitive dressing
- supports social justice initiatives by relieving parents and students of pressures to purchase high cost brand name clothing
- develops a positive image of West Lakes Shore School R-7 in the wider community
- assists staff in identifying strangers in the school grounds and therefore enables staff to ensure a greater level of safety for students
- assists in identifying students during excursions and in the school grounds
- maintains sufficient choice for individuals

COLOUR CODE & ACCEPTABLE ITEMS OF CLOTHING

While LOWES is our school uniform supplier, parents may purchase elsewhere as long as they follow the dress code.

ALL Uniform items should be clearly labelled with your child's name in text or a clothing label

The items of clothing that are acceptable are:

- **Plain Navy:** shorts, skorts, bike shorts, track pants, trousers, cargo pants, jazz pants, netball skirts, and tights (with feet). Items that are faded to a shade, which is not clearly navy are unacceptable. **Jeans/Denim are not acceptable.**
- **Plain Navy and/or Jade:** T-shirts, cotton shirts, windcheaters, jumpers, polo shirts, uniform dress, uniform items as per school stock, cardigan, jacket, skivvy. **White tops are not acceptable.**
- **Plain white or navy socks**

HATS - Please refer to the Sun Smart Policy for more information

Acceptable Items - Hats are available from Lowes or the School Front Office (pending availability)

- Navy blue broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hats. - *Baseball caps are not appropriate headwear as they do not cover the ears and neck.*
- Navy winter beanie – school branded or plain navy

HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

Footwear should meet safety standards (backed/rubber soled) and not limit involvement in educational programmes. Thongs, boots, clogs, platform, slip ons and high heeled shoes which are heavy or slip off easily are not suited to active involvement in learning activities and are not acceptable. Shoes must be tied securely at all times

It is recommended those girls wearing skirts or dresses, wear bike or sports pants underneath to enable them to participate in physical education, and play on equipment without embarrassment.

To help prevent the spread of head lice, hair shoulder length or longer must be tied back.

RESTORATIVE PROCESSES

All incidents of non-compliance with uniform will be responded to in line with our school 'Behaviour Support Policy' and the Department for Education Uniform guidelines

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Parents/caregivers are not compelled to purchase garments through LOWES.
- Students will be expected to wear school colours for all learning activities including those outside the school.
- Clothing should be clearly labelled, thus reducing the amount of unclaimed lost property.
- Jewellery is not permitted for safety reasons, with the exception of a watch, sleeper earrings, medic alerts & religious symbols (religious symbols on a chain are to be worn under the uniform). Jewellery associated with body piercing is not appropriate.
- Make up or nail polish is not a part of school uniform and therefore not acceptable. Children will be sent to the front office to remove it.
- Clothing with brand names, writing or pictures is not acceptable.
- Hooded sweatshirts, jackets or tops are not acceptable.
- Hooded rain jackets are acceptable to be worn to and from school only and must be removed in the classroom.
- Footless black leggings are not acceptable.
- Brief shorts are not acceptable.
- Tights/stockings may be worn under the school dress.
- Track Pants are not acceptable to be worn under the school dress.
- Hair colouring / extensions are not acceptable (non-natural colours).
- Tattoos are not acceptable.
- Stripes or logos are not acceptable.
- Parents have the right to request exemption for their children on specific grounds (cultural, religious, etc) in accordance with Department regulations.
- Smart Watches with internet capability (ie: telephone, messages, 4G etc are to be considered items as per the school phone policy and placed in teachers safes – the school will not be responsible for loss of an item)

COUNCIL'S REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed regularly and will involve SRC, parents and staff.

Reviewed and approved May 2020