STUDENT UNIFORM AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE POLICY

Rationale

St Aloysius Catholic College has resolved that children attending the College should wear an approved school uniform, unless exempted from doing so by the Principal on designated days and for exceptional reasons. The College uniform identifies students as belonging to St Aloysius Catholic College.

Purpose

The College believes that a clearly stated and sensibly implemented Uniform and Personal Appearance Policy is important for the following reasons:

1. To provide a consistent focus and a sense of identity for students attending the College.
2. To provide an opportunity for parents/guardians and staff to instil in the children a sense of pride in their appearance, an enhanced school spirit and the promotion of the College’s public image.
3. To prevent excesses in fashion trends and to eliminate competition among students, often based on parental ability to provide suitable clothes.
4. To provide an economic means of clothing children for school.

Procedures

1. The Principal is empowered to implement the approved uniform policy and, in doing so, may grant exception to a child from wearing all or part of the uniform for a designated period of time.
2. An explanatory note from parents is required to be sent to the Principal or class teacher if a child is not wearing the correct school uniform.
3. As part of their sun protection plan, parents may exercise the option for their children to wear long sleeved shirts and for boys to wear long trousers as part of the College uniform.
4. The Uniform Shop, under the auspices of the College Board, provides a service for parents by stocking all items of the approved school uniform, except for shoes and sports shoes, at minimum possible prices. The shop also maintains a pool of good quality second-hand uniform clothing.
5. All members of the College staff are conscious of their role in implementing this policy by setting an example in their own neatness and appropriateness of dress and by ensuring that children are neatly attired when participating in any school activity.

Expectations of Students

Formal Uniform

1. Students are to wear the correct College uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from the College and when engaged in College activities outside of school hours.
2. At the Huntingfield Campus, students are to wear their blazers to and from school and when representing the College at official functions.
3. Girls’ skirts should not be more than 10cm above the knee.
4. The only acceptable jacket is the official College jacket. Other coats and tops are not permitted to be worn with the College uniform.
5. Sports shoes are not to be worn to and from school unless part of the Physical Education uniform.
6. Students are to wear approved College sun hats during Terms 1 and 3. The College bucket hat is the permitted hat to be worn at the Kingston Campus. Students at the Huntingfield Campus may wear the College bucket hat or cap. Wearing the College bucket hat is strongly encouraged at the Huntingfield Campus.
7. Students are to only have regulation College bags.
8. Boys are to wear short grey socks with the formal uniform. Girls are to wear white ankle socks with turned down tops. White ankle socks are to be worn with the sports uniform. During colder weather, girls are to wear navy blue tights.
9. Neck scarves are permitted during cold weather, but they must be plain navy blue in colour.
10. All items of clothing are to be clearly and permanently labelled.
11. If students are in public places while in school uniform (e.g. shopping after school), the full, correct uniform must be worn.

**School Shoes**

**Boys** – plain, black, polishable leather shoes. No skate shoes or similar shoes with a flat sole.

**Girls** - plain, black, polishable leather shoes. No ballet flats or similar shoes with a flat sole. Girls may wear ‘Mary Jane’ style shoes providing the shoes have an adjustable leather strap (buckle or Velcro). To minimise OHS issues in the kitchen and workshop at the Huntingfield Campus, there should be substantial covering of the feet.

**Physical Education Uniform**

1. Physical Education uniform is only to be worn on designated sports days, on excursions or for other designated and approved College events.
2. Students are expected to wear the complete physical education uniform when required to do so. The College track pants and shorts have lime green piping down the outer leg. A plain navy blue alternative is not acceptable without prior permission from the Principal.
3. Skate shoes, canvas gym shoes and volleys are not acceptable as a sport shoe.

**Hair**

1. Hair is to be clean, neat and tidy at all times.
2. Hair of shoulder length or longer is to be worn tied back as an OHS measure.
3. Ribbons, bands and clips are to be of College colours of navy blue, lime green or white. Hair bands in school fabric are available from the College Uniform Shop.
4. Extreme haircuts, hair colours or overt multi-colouring are not acceptable.
5. Students who dye their hair a natural colour, which is in contrast to their own colour, will be expected to ensure that there is no regrowth.

**Jewellery**

Acceptable forms of jewellery may include:

1. One set of plain gold or silver stud earrings, which are worn in the lower earlobes. Long, dangly earrings are not suitable for school wear for safety reasons. Coloured earrings and ‘spacers’ are not acceptable. Other piercings are not permitted at school.
2. One watch.
3. One Christian symbol worn around the neck e.g. a cross or medal.

To minimise OHS issues, it has been determined that students are not permitted to wear bracelets or rings.
Colour promotional bands are permitted to be worn only during the week of the promotion of a particular cause e.g. Cancer Council, Beyond Blue.

The following items are not permitted: nail polish, makeup, including mascara, and anklets.

**How do we make this policy work?**

Sensible adherence to this policy is the responsibility of everyone in the College community. Parents/guardians, staff and students all have a role to play in making the policy work.

The St Aloysius Catholic College Uniform and Personal Appearance Policy has been established after consultation with the Leadership Team, the staff, the College Board and the Parents and Friends Association. All endorse and fully support the policy.

**Evaluation**

The College uniform may be reviewed at any time at the request of the Staff, Board or Parents and Friends Association. As part of any such review, members of these groups shall be invited to make submissions to the Principal and the Board for decision.

Implemented: September 2008.
Amended: July 2010, March 2012.