



# DRESS CODE 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**

The School has developed a range of recommended uniform items. These items are designed to be functional for all students attending the School. These items consist of:

- Navy Blue and Jade Embroidered Polo Top
- Navy Blue Embroidered Shorts with Jade and White Piping
- Navy Blue Embroidered Jacket with Jade and White Piping
- Navy Blue Embroidered Track Pant with Jade and White Piping
- WLSS Check Dress
- Navy Blue Skirt or Pinafore (By Order only)
- Navy Blue Embroidered Bucket Hat with White Piping
- Navy Blue Embroidered Legionnaires Cap
- Navy Blue Printed Reader Bag
- Navy Blue Printed Back Pack
- Navy Blue or White Socks

### ***Additional items of clothing that are acceptable are:***

- Plain Navy: shorts, track pants, trousers, cargo pants, jazz pants, cotton shirts, windcheaters, jumpers, polo shirts, pinafore, skirt, cardigans, jacket, skivvies, hair accessories, tights, gloves and scarves

### ***Items of clothing that are not acceptable are:***

- Items that are faded to a shade, which is not clearly navy
- Jeans, Denim, White Tops, Hooded Tops, Baseball Caps, Leggings (no feet), Brief Shorts, Skirts and Dresses (no shorter than 5cm above knee)
- Clothing with brand names, writing, pictures, stripes or logos, torn garments and hats and clothing that has graffiti
- Track Pants may not be worn under the school dress

Hambours is the School's preferred supplier of regulation uniform items. Parents may purchase generic items from alternative sources provided the dress code is adhered to.

## **HATS**

Children will be expected to wear legionnaire hats or bucket hats in the yard for all of Term 1 and from 1 September to the conclusion of Term 4. Students may elect not to wear their hats in the yard at recess and lunch play times from the commencement of Term 2 until 31 August. Please note: **Students must keep their hats at school for use during outside class time activities** and for those occasions when the UV radiation levels are high and school staff determine that students should wear their hats.

Students who refuse to follow instructions from staff when directed to the hard covered shaded areas for not wearing a hat during mandatory periods will receive a school consequence (reflection room) and parents will be informed via the standard pro forma sent home when a child attends reflection.

Students not wearing a hat are to go straight to the courtyard or hard shaded areas, not into the playground.

Students not wearing a hat during sport are to sit in the shade or be assigned an alternative program to avoid exposure to the sun.

## **THINGS TO CONSIDER**

- Parents/caregivers are not compelled to purchase generic garments through Hambours.
- 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.
- Hair colouring / extensions are not acceptable (non natural colours).
- Tattoos are not acceptable.
- Parents have the right to request exemption for their children on specific grounds (cultural, religious, etc) in accordance with DECD regulations.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES**

- Footwear should meet safety standards (backed/rubber soled) and not limit involvement in educational programmes. **Thongs, 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 and be a colour blending or matching with our school colours.
- 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

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE**

- Students who regularly fail to comply with the dress code policy will meet with senior staff. A note will be sent to parent/caregiver asking them to support our policy.

## **COUNCIL'S REVIEW**

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