



## Uniform Policy

A school uniform consists of a limited range of clothing, including footwear and headwear. It identifies student as belonging to a particular school. Schools usually expect students to wear the uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities out of school hours.

The Department of Education and Communities supports the wearing of school uniforms by students and the upholding of high standards of dress by students and staff. The Department recognises that NSW has a long history of school uniforms or dress codes being decided by the local school community.

The NSW Department of Education & Training states that: 'All students in NSW Government Schools are expected to maintain a neat appearance, including adhering to the requirements of the school's uniform or dress code policy.'

At Exeter Public School we expect students to wear the uniform during school hours, while traveling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities outside of school hours. Principal's decisions about school uniforms should be consistent with occupational health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation. Aspects of the uniform related to safety, e.g. safe footwear, eye protection and hats, will need to be enforced as appropriate. Each school's uniform policy must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers. The consultation will be conducted in a manner appropriate to each school and be based on participatory decision-making principles. The school's uniform policy and uniform requirements should be formally endorsed by the school community before implementation. A school's uniform policy should take into account the diverse nature of the student population in the school and not disadvantage any student. Economic, personal, social and cultural factors affecting students and their families must be considered when deciding on items of uniform. Other considerations, such as body shape or religious requirements should be taken into account in making a final decision on the design and fabric of school uniforms.

The school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements should be reviewed at least every five years and amended where necessary. Groups within the school community may also seek a review when circumstances change significantly or issues arise.



## **Implementing school uniform requirements**

Positive reinforcement and encouraging responsible behaviour are the preferred approaches to ensuring students wear school uniform.

Everyone has a role in setting the standards for the school. Teachers and other school staff model appropriate standards for students. They should dress in a professional manner at all times. Students should not be disadvantaged where required uniform items are not available because of circumstances beyond their control. Conscientious objections by parents to the wearing of school uniform should be respected. Responses to students who do not wear uniform must be appropriate. They should be clarified, agreed upon by the school community and documented. Responses must be fair and consistent. They must not prevent students from continued participation in essential curriculum activities except where exclusion is necessary for reasons of safety.

### **Responsibilities and Delegations**

It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that the school uniform policy is developed and reviewed collaboratively with the school community. When a school community agrees on a school uniform, the principal oversees the shared responsibility for ensuring that students are encouraged to wear school uniforms that meet agreed community standards and adhere to legislative requirements. Principals must provide parents or carers with the school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements. Principals who operate within the policy framework will be supported by the Department in the implementation of this policy.

### **Responses for not wearing school uniform**

If a child is unable to wear any item of the school's uniform, written advice from a parent/carer needs to be sent to school with the child. If there is a similar item of clothing in the 2nd hand or lost property basket, and is of suitable condition, cleanliness and quality, the item will be swapped for the school day. If a child is at school not dressed in school uniform without written advice, the class teacher or principal will send home the 'Out of Uniform' notice. If a child is continually at school not dressed in school uniform, the class teacher or principal will request a meeting where an offer of assistance for the purchase of a uniform will be provided if the family is unable to fully afford one at that time. All applications will be carefully considered and are kept confidential.



## Expected School Uniform

### **Girls Summer**

Red printed polo shirt, Navy culottes/pleated skirt, navy socks, black enclosed shoes.

### **Winter**

Red printed polo shirt, navy fleecy track suit pants, navy trousers, navy fleecy/knitted jumper  
Navy tights, Navy skirt, navy socks, black enclosed shoes.

### **Sport**

White polo shirt, red shorts/skirt, school tracksuit, white socks and sneakers. Hair accessories should be simple and in keeping with the school colours. Jewellery should be minimal and earrings restricted to small studs or sleepers.

### **Boys Summer**

Red printed polo shirt, navy shorts, navy socks and black enclosed shoes.

### **Winter**

Red printed polo shirt, navy fleecy track suit pants, navy trousers, navy fleecy/knitted jumper,  
navy socks and black enclosed shoes

### **Sport**

Blue & Red polo shirt, red shorts, School tracksuit, White socks sneakers.

These items may be ordered via the P&C Uniform order form or from the uniform co-ordinator who will be onsite at school every Friday morning.

A navy bucket hat/wide-brimmed hat is to be worn by all students as part of the school's Sun Safe Policy. A school microfleece beanie is available for winter wear. Both are available at the uniform shop for \$15.

In winter, gloves, beanies, scarves, jackets etc. should be navy. A school backpack is available for purchase also—price \$45

Failure to have a school hat will result in 'No Hat, Play In The Shade'. School beanies may be worn in the cooler months instead of a school hat.

Andrew Barnes

Principal