

## UNIFORM POLICY

**Updated: 2020**  
**Review: 2024**

### Rationale

This policy establishes guidelines regarding the wearing of the College uniform. This policy statement will:

- 1.1 Assist with the provision of a safe school environment;
- 1.2 Assist with the identification of students within the College;
- 1.3 Enhance the appearance of students and their sense of wellbeing;
- 1.4 Have items of clothing that are of the same appearance, style and quality;
- 1.5 Encourage a greater sense of equality despite the diverse socio-economic backgrounds of our families.

The College uniform is the outward sign of membership of the family of Our Lady of Mercy College. All students have the right to wear this uniform, and to benefit from the good reputation which the College enjoys in the local community. Each of our students also has the corresponding responsibility to wear the uniform correctly and neatly and to behave in such a way that the community's respect for the College is enhanced.

Students are encouraged to take pride in being a part of the community of Our Lady of Mercy College.

### Expectations

- 2.1 Students are expected to be well presented at all times and to show respect and pride in their school by wearing the uniform correctly.
- 2.2 The uniform is to be clean, neatly pressed and worn in its entirety at all times. Shoes are to be polished.
- 2.3 If the full school uniform is unable to be worn, a dated explanatory note from a parent/guardian is required.

### General

The College uniform must be purchased from the Uniform Shop.

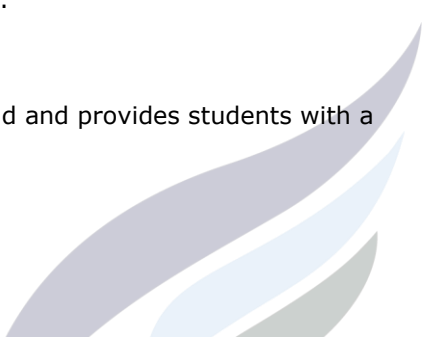
Students are expected to maintain a neat and tidy appearance. Female students must wear their skirts close to knee length, not rolled up or mid-thigh, to maintain personal modesty.

No undershirt or coloured clothing to be visible.

Certain representative duties require the use of a blazer. Students may choose to buy their own personal blazer however; the College has blazers available to hire for a minimal cost.

Students are expected to purchase the prescribed College school bag.

The College has chosen to provide a uniform that can be worn all year round and provides students with a limited opportunity to customise it to suit their individual preference.



Families have a two-year period, which concludes at the end of 2021, in which to transition from the Bunbury Catholic College school and PE uniforms to the uniform of Our Lady of Mercy College.

### **Uniform Requirements**

- College shorts/marle grey long pants for male students
- College skirt/marle grey dress shorts/ marle grey long pants for female students
- College blue shirt
- College socks
- College tights for female students
- College jumper for Years 7 – 9 students
- College soft shell jacket for Years 10 – 12 students (optional alternative to the College jumper)

A tracksuit top may be worn over the College jumper in very cold weather, **generally Term 2 and Term 3 only**.

The tracksuit bottom is not considered as a substitute for shorts, long pants or a skirt.

Jumpers/soft shell jackets/tracksuit tops are to cover the shirts completely.

Long pants for female students may only be tailored to appear as dress or smart long pants, with a regular pant leg that touches the shoes' laces. The wearing of grey socks with the long pants is preferred. Pants may not be cut, excessively shortened or tapered towards the ankle.

### **Shoes**

Black, lace-up leather school shoes, with a heel, that offer firm foot/ankle support. Any form of soft shoe, trainers or ballet style pumps, is not permitted. Soft shoe styles that have laces, do not qualify as regulation school shoes.

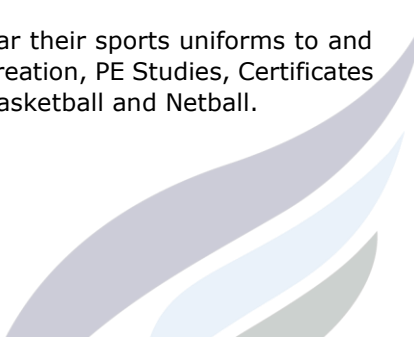
### **Ties**

Wearing of the College tie is optional and generally based upon student preference.

### **Sports Uniform**

- House polo (Costello, Hayes, Read, McAuley, to be worn for house-based competitions)
- College blue polo (to be worn for physical education classes)
- Navy shorts
- Sports socks
- Sports shoes (that give a good level of support to the feet)
- College tracksuit

Until the completion of the new gymnasium, students are permitted to wear their sports uniforms to and from the College on the days that they have Dance, Physical Education/Recreation, PE Studies, Certificates in Sport and Outdoor Education, electives of Outdoor Education, PE Elite, Basketball and Netball.



Once the gymnasium is in operation, all students must arrive at the College in full College uniform. No student is to attend Homeroom in a sports uniform without an explanatory note or an excursion permission notification. Students attending classes during the day are subject to the same provisions. If Physical Education is the last period of the day, students may leave the College in the sports uniform. If there is an assembly at the end of the day, students must change into full College uniform prior to this event.

## Hats

The wearing of a College hat, by our junior students, when outside, is compulsory. The recommended style is one that provides good shade to the face, neck and ears, when outdoors. The older students (Years 11–12) are strongly encouraged to wear the College hat when outdoors, since sun protection is paramount when making healthy living choices. The College cap may be worn, but they do not offer the same level of protection as does a broad brimmed hat.

## Hair and Make-Up


### Hair

Hair regulations are based on the principle that hair should be healthy, neat and well presented. Further, the regulations are designed to allow students some discretion in their choice of hairstyle within these parameters. Extenuating circumstances and cultural norms will be considered on an individual basis. Where any doubt or confusion exists regarding the interpretation of these regulations, clarity will be provided by the relevant Head of Year to ensure a consistent application of standards throughout the College. Students are encouraged to seek advice if they are unsure.

- Hair must be clean and washed on a regular basis (at least weekly)
- Hair must be neat, tidy and combed/brushed regularly
- Hair must be tied back if collar length or longer and be 'off the face'
- Hair must be a single, natural colour
- Hair must be of a consistent length, avoiding extreme graduation
- Hair must be cut at a minimum 'number two' blade length
- No extremes of hair colour or style are permitted
- Extensions are not permitted
- Hair neatness must be maintained by the student throughout all stages of hair growth. There is no allowance for hair that is at an 'in between' stage
- Sideburns must not be any lower than halfway down the ear
- Discreet hair accessories may be worn but must be either navy blue, sky blue, green, white or black. If the house shirt is being worn, a matching discreet hair tie is permitted.

### Make-Up

The use of some light foundation, with sun protection, is permitted. The use of mascara and eyeliner is not permitted. Make-up remover is available from the front office.





### **Nail Polish**

Only clear nail polish is permitted. Students are to be aware that for Health and Safety reasons, nail polish is not permitted to be worn in some Learning Areas (e.g. food classes). Nail varnish remover is available from the Administration Building. Acrylic nails have the same guidelines as natural nails.

### **Shaving**

Students are expected to be clean shaven when at the College.

### **Jewellery**

A wristwatch is permitted.

No smart watches to be worn during assessments/examinations.

A single discreet, plain, simple, unobtrusive bangle/bracelet may be worn on the wrist.

A single discreet, plain, simple, unobtrusive ring may be worn on the hand.

A maximum of 2 earrings per ear are permitted. They must be discreet and be of the small stud or sleeper variety. No spacers or spikes are to be worn while at the College.

A discreet necklace with a small Christian or other religious symbol may be worn.

Students are required to remove all rings and bracelets prior to entering any of the workshops, Art and/or Food Technology rooms or at the instruction of the Teacher.

Removal of bangle/bracelet and ring may be required when participating in various Science experiences.

If there is any doubt, a decision will be made by the relevant Head of Year.

### **Tattoos and Piercings**

Tattoos and body piercings are not to be visible at any time while at the College; nor is the use of clear spacers or other methods, to cover up the piercing.

### **College Representative Uniform**

If a student is chosen to represent the College in an academic activity, the formal College uniform will be worn. This consists of College blue shirt, College long pants (male), College skirt (female), College socks, tie and College blazer. Some of these items are available to hire from the College uniform shop. The appropriate staff member will notify students/families of the requirements for each event.

If a student is chosen to represent the College in a sporting activity, the College blue polo shirt will be worn with the sports uniform. Additionally, some events require the formal College sport uniform to be worn. The appropriate staff member will notify students/families of the requirements for each event.

