



STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

A link to this policy is available on the McClelland College website, staff will be directed to this policy via the Staff Hand Book, parents and students will be directed to this policy via COG and the students PLJ.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline McClelland College's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by McClelland College's School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance.
- help prepare students to meet community and workplace expectations.
- support McClelland College's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing.
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

Summer uniform must be worn Terms 1 and 4 with winter uniform Terms 2 and 3. There is a 2 week changeover where either uniform is acceptable either side of Term 1 and Term 3 holidays. Students must be in full summer or full winter uniform, no mix and matching permitted.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Example School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, McClelland College students must comply with the following:

- All students must be in full school uniform.

- The summer dress must be within 10cm of the kneecap.
- Hair may be tied with a purple or white ribbon.
- Hair colour may be coloured with natural tones only. Students will be required to correct extreme hair colouring or styles.
- Any tattoos must not be visible during the school day.
- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair.
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Jewellery and cosmetics

- Jewellery: Students should not wear jewellery other than watches. Earrings, other than studs or sleepers, are not permitted. A maximum of two studs or sleepers only are acceptable. Facial piercings, other than permitted earrings must be removed or replaced with a small clear retainer when students are at school. Any other additional body piercing is not acceptable for health and safety reasons.
- Make up and coloured nail polish is not part of the College uniform and must not be worn at school

Parents of students who fail to comply with the policy will be contacted and students removed from formal classes until the policy is adhered to. Staff members may confiscate jewellery that is against the uniform policy for later collection.

Hair and Sun safety

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing sunscreen.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the PSW store in Carrum Downs, or parents may order it directly from the PSW website.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact a member of McClelland College's welfare team to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

IMPLEMENTATION

McClelland College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and in the students' PLJ. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school. Any student not in full school uniform may be sent home to correct their uniform after parent contact has been made.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents by the leading teacher or assistant principal. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by McClelland College to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Students, parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the Principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The Principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

McClelland College welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on the school website.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- McClelland College Sunsmart Policy
- McClelland College Parent Complaint Policy

- McClelland College Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last approved by College Council 19th June 2023 and is scheduled for review in 2026.

Appendix A

SUMMER UNIFORM

- Summer dress (pale grey and white check)
- White short sleeved cotton shirt with logo
- Grey tailored school shorts
- Grey tailored school trousers
- College deep purple jumper with logo
- Purple spray or black soft shell jacket with logo
- Grey ankle length socks (not anklets)
- Black leather lace-up school shoes (not runners)
- SunSmart brimmed hat
- Plain black belt with small plain buckle may be worn

WINTER UNIFORM

- White long sleeved cotton shirt with logo
- Grey tailored school trousers
- Winter skirt (grey striped)
- College deep purple jumper with logo
- Grey ankle length socks (not anklets)
- Black leather lace-up school shoes (not runners)
- Purple/grey school tie
- Purple spray or black soft shell jacket with logo
- Plain grey scarf (optional). Scarves are not to be worn indoors.
- Plain black belt with small plain buckle may be worn

SPORT/P.E. UNIFORM (UNISEX) YEARS 7-12

- Black sports shorts with logo
- Track pants black with logo
- Black and purple sports t-shirt with logo
- Sports leggings with logo
- White socks
- Sports shoes