

Mickleham Secondary College

Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the main office

Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mickleham Secondary 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 Mickleham Secondary College's School Council in 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
- support Mickleham Secondary 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.

Uniform and appearance

The full list of Mickleham Secondary College'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, Mickleham Secondary College students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Shirts should be tucked in at all times
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear large, hooped decorative jewellery to school for safety reasons. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Makeup should be natural if worn at all and if students are discouraged from wearing false nails for safety reasons.

Sun safety

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a school hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing sunscreen. Hats should be plain black with school logo or with no logos. 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.

Sports classes

During PE classes formal items such as dress, dress pants and shirts cannot be worn. Appropriate sports items should be worn. Alternative runners can be worn during PE but black school shoes should be put on directly after the lesson is finished.

Purchase of uniforms

Uniform items can be purchased from Academy Uniforms <https://academyuniforms.com.au/>
Items can be tried on in the Thomastown store or ordered online.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal, Business Manager or Year Level Coordinator 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

Mickleham Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through Compass and our website. 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.

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 classroom teacher. 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 Mickleham Secondary 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 and their parents or carers may apply in writing 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

Mickleham Secondary 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 in our policies section of the website.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Further information and resources

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

APPENDIX A: Mickleham Secondary College UNIFORM ITEMS

All year round

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

Softshell Jacket

Black softshell jacket with school logo

Polo shirts

Green long and short sleeved with school logo.

Dress shirt

A plain white dress shirt with collar and no branding

Rugby shirt

Long sleeve school rugby shirt with school logo

Dress

Green and white checked dress

Socks or tights/stockings

Black or white socks, Black tights/stockings

Shorts

Black school shorts with school logo only

Pants

Plain, black dress pants without decoration or brand name Or black track pants with school logo

Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Summer sandals with covered toes, black school shoes or pull on school boots or runners are permitted. All items must be entirely black, low heels or flat with no coloured branding or writing. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

Headwear

Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs may be of any colour but should be plain solid colours with no patterns or logos. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Hats (summer)

Black broadbrim without decoration or brand name.

Bags

A black school bag with the school logo

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