

Student Uniform, Grooming & Presentation Policy

RATIONALE

The St Augustine's College (StAC) Uniform, Grooming and Presentation Policy reflects the community expectations and standards as determined by the College Leadership Team in consultation with school community representatives, including student voice representatives. St Augustine's College students should at all times present a positive image to the community where they are in regular contact with prospective employers, future parents and students, and members of the general public.

AIMS

St Augustine's College believes that a clearly stated and sensibly implemented Uniform, Grooming and Presentation Policy is important for the following reasons:

- A student's standard of grooming is a reflection of St Augustine's College and also a reflection of a student's willingness to be a responsible member of the College community.
- The development of gifts and talents, whether they be physical, intellectual, spiritual, cultural or social is an important task at a school. A uniform is a means of enabling all students to stand out and be different not in the way they look, but in how they use their gifts and talents. Where people seek to stand out because their appearance is different, detracts from the recognition of their other more meaningful abilities.
- The wearing of the College uniform by students at St Augustine's College is a sign of belonging to a community and provides a sense of identity, pride and loyalty to the College values of Unitas, Veritas and Caritas.
- As an external statement of the pride and discipline of a student, the uniform presents the College to the public and ensures a positive image in line with the College ethos as a Catholic school.

It is therefore the responsibility of all families to ensure that students are attired in correct, well-fitting, complete school uniform.

IMPLEMENTATION

All students are expected to wear full correct College uniform and follow grooming and presentation guidelines in a way which is consistent with the specific points below. We note the importance of parents and caregivers in working in partnership with our school to ensure that their child complies with this policy.

We understand that families may experience hardship at times, resulting in their child missing part of the uniform. Please communicate this with the relevant teacher or Pastoral Leader.

FORMAL UNIFORM

PREP

Boys Formal Uniform

- Regulation house polo shirt, sport shorts, sport socks, wide brim hat and sports shoes. Regulation Prep fleece jumper in winter, as well as with plain navy fleece tracksuit pants.

Girls Formal Uniform

- Regulation house polo shirt, sport shorts, sport socks, wide brim hat and sports shoes. Regulation Prep fleece jumper in winter, as well as with plain navy fleece tracksuit pants.

EARLY/JUNIOR YEARS (Year 1 – 6)

Boys Formal Uniform

- Regulation blue day shirt, navy shorts, navy ankle socks, wide brim hat, and black shoes. Regulation maroon jumper in winter, as well as with navy school trousers, with the exception of Year 1, who may wear the regulation Prep fleece jumper and navy school trousers. Day shirt is to be worn untucked.

Girls Formal Uniform

- Regulation dress with navy tie, navy ankle socks, wide brim hat, black enclosed shoes. Regulation maroon jumper in winter, with navy tights or stockings, with the exception of Year 1, who may wear the Prep fleece jumper.

MIDDLE YEARS (Year 7 – 9)

Boys Formal Uniform

- Regulation blue day shirt, navy tailored day shorts, black leather belt, knee high socks, bucket hat or cap, black formal shoes. Regulation maroon jumper or sports jacket in winter, as well as with navy tailored trousers (optional). Day shirt is to be worn untucked; socks are to be worn pulled up.

Girls Formal Uniform

- Regulation blue blouse with maroon tie, navy skirt, white ankle socks, bucket hat or cap, black formal shoes. Regulation maroon jumper in winter, with navy tights or stockings. Skirt is to be worn below the knee and white socks visible above the shoe. Culottes (optional)

SENIOR YEARS (Year 10 – 12)

Boys Formal Uniform

- Regulation white day shirt with senior tie, navy tailored day shorts, black leather belt, knee high socks, formal wide brim hat, black formal shoes. Regulation maroon jumper or sports jacket in winter, as well as with navy tailored trousers (optional). Year 12 students may wear their senior jersey in Term 2 and 3. Day shirt is to be tucked in; socks are to be worn pulled up and tie worn in Term 2 and Term 3.

Girls Formal Uniform

- Regulation white blouse with senior tie, navy skirt, white ankle socks, formal wide brim hat, black formal shoes. Regulation maroon jumper or sports jacket in winter, with navy tights or stockings (optional). Year 12 students may wear their senior jersey in Term 2 and 3. Skirt is to be worn below the knee and white socks visible above the shoe.

BLAZERS

- The College has a supply of professional blazers that students may borrow for particular occasions e.g. introducing or presenting at formal events or representing the College at outside events.
- Students are not required to purchase a blazer as part of their uniform, but there are occasions on which a blazer is appropriate wear.
- All borrowing is short term. We expect that blazers will be well looked after, returned promptly, and the family will pay for dry cleaning if there is a mishap.
- All borrowing of blazers is coordinated through the Assistant Principal Student Wellbeing.

SPORTS UNIFORM (PREP – YEAR 12)

- The full sports uniform consists of: Regulation house polo, sport shorts, sport socks, hat (precinct specific) and cross trainer/running shoes. The regulation tracksuit or maroon jumper in winter, with the exception of Prep and Year 1 students, who may wear the Prep navy fleece jumper and navy fleece track pants.
- The full sports uniform must be worn on the days the students have HPE and/or swimming, or as advised to do so for other events and classes. One day per week will be designated at the beginning of the year for Year 11 and Year 12 students who do not participate in HPE to wear their sports uniform.

SHOES

Formal Uniform Shoes

- **Prep:** Any colour sports joggers; these may be lace-up or Velcro. No open shoes or canvas style shoes are allowed, as Prep students will be working in a workshop environment where closed in shoes are required for safety reasons and they will also need to provide the necessary support for PE and sports activities.
- **Early/Junior Years (Year 1 – 6):** Black leather closed in dress shoes or black leather joggers.
- **Middle Years (Year 7 – 9):** Formal/dress black leather, lace-up, low heeled shoes. Mary-Jane shoes are not permitted.
- **Senior Years (Year 10 – 12):** Formal/dress black leather, lace-up, low heeled shoes. Mary-Jane shoes are not permitted.

Sports Uniform Shoes

- The purpose of wearing sports shoes is to ensure the safe participation in a range of active sports. The key considerations in establishing sports shoe requirements include: purpose designed shoes, protection of feet on hard surfaces, appropriate arch support for active activity, sole with a reasonable thickness, minimising “fashion” as a consideration.
- Sports shoes for use at St Augustine’s should be specifically designed for a variety of running activities and sports.
- The sports shoes must be lace up.
- Coloured shoes are acceptable providing that they meet the conditions outlined above.
- Students wearing inappropriate sports shoes will not be able to participate in sporting or Health and Physical Education activities. **Flat sole canvas shoes such as Volleys, Converse, Vans, Skate shoes, and fashion shoes (even if they are made by a sports shoe company) are unacceptable for sporting activity, as is open back footwear.**

HATS

Hats are an integral part of the school uniform, due to their role in ensuring sun safety. Students are to have hats with them on every school day, regardless of season. Students must wear the correct precinct regulation hat for all breaks and outside activities this includes travelling to and from school and between classes.

Prep: Regulation wide brim hat.

Early/Junior Years (Year 1 – 6): Regulation wide brim hat.

Junior Years (Year 3 - 6): Option to wear the bucket hat.

Middle Years (Year 7 – 9): Regulation bucket hat or cap.

Senior Years (Year 10 – 12): Regulation formal wide brim hat to be worn with formal uniform, bucket hat or cap to be worn with sports uniform.

MULTI-PURPOSE AND REPRESENTATIVE UNIFORM

Multi-purpose Uniform

- The regulation multi-purpose sport shirt and singlet are not to be worn as part of the school uniform unless advised to do so.

- The regulation multi-purpose bike pant and crop top may only be worn on days that the students are advised to do so in relation to sporting events, however, they may be worn under the regulation uniform.
- Any StAC football jersey, shorts and socks are not to be worn as part of the school uniform.
- The StAC Netball dress is not to be worn as part of the school uniform.
- The StAC Neoprene Visor is not to be worn as part of the school uniform unless advised otherwise. The visor is to be worn during sporting events e.g. netball games, touch football games etc.

Representative Uniform

The Representative Polo is not to be worn as part of the school uniform, unless advised otherwise. To be worn when representing the College at events.

Cultural Uniform

Cultural tights are to be worn in dance and drama performances. These are not to be worn at school as part of the uniform unless advised to do so.

Regulation Tracksuit

The regulation tracksuit is multi-use and can be worn with the regulation sports uniform, multi-purpose uniform, representative uniform, and cultural uniform.

BAGS

- All students must have a St Augustine's College bag.
- Two different size school bags are available to accommodate all precincts.

HAIR

Hair is to be kept clean, neat and tidy, and kept away from a student's eyes. If hair is below the collar, hair is to be tied back in hair ties/ribbons/scrunchies in the College colours (maroon, navy blue, or teal). Alternatively, ribbons may be of natural colours that match the student's hair (brown, black, blonde, auburn etc.) While we allow students to show their individuality, the style and colour should not draw undue attention to themselves.

For example:

- Closely shaved heads (0, 1), tails, tracks and mullets and any other styles considered to be contrary to the policy and spirit of the College uniform expectations will not be accepted-this is at the discretion of the College.
- Hair should be of a single natural colour and this includes the colour of weaves and hair extensions.
- Extreme hairstyles or differences in the length of hair within a style cut are not permitted. This includes but is not limited to, mullets and undercuts.
- All cuts are a gauge two or above and must be evenly cut and blended gradually.
- Sideburns should not reach below mid-ear.
- Boys are to be clean-shaven. Beards, goatees and moustaches are not permitted at any length.
- No eyebrow tracks are permitted.

Clarification

- Any clarification or approval regarding hair should be sought prior to the haircut from the Pastoral Team or from the College Leadership Team (Primary).
- A student who presents with an inappropriate hairstyle or unshaven may be asked to be collected and not return until their appearance aligns with this policy.

PERSONAL HYGIENE

- Students are expected to always take responsibility for their own cleanliness.
- Students should use deodorant if required.
- Chewing gum is strictly prohibited

JEWELLERY

The College cannot accept responsibility for lost jewellery. Students should not bring valuable items to school. Students may wear minimal, tasteful jewellery that is conservative and appropriate for the school environment.

Permitted items include:

- Up to two piercings in each ear lobe, with small sleepers or studs (maximum 1.5cm for hoops, 5mm for studs). Piercings in the upper lobe or other parts of the ear are not permitted. Facial piercings are not permitted.
- Students may wear a watch or medical bracelet.
- Students may wear one fine necklace with a Christian religious symbol, or a discrete charm that is conservative.

Not permitted:

- Additional piercings.
- No rings, wrist jewellery, or anklets are permitted.

Non-compliance

If a student wears non-compliant jewellery (including extra piercings), they will be asked to remove it and take it to the RTC. An infringement will be issued by the referring teacher. Items will be held for collection in the RTC at 3pm. If a student hands in the same item multiple times, parents may be asked to collect these items.

Please note that having a new or healing piercing is not an acceptable reason for failing to comply with this policy. Families should ensure new piercings are fixed with a clear flat retainer or allow for enough time over the extended summer break to allow for healing to be complete.

Please seek permission via an email to a Pastoral Leader or College Leadership Team member (Primary) to wear a religious or cultural item.

MAKE UP

- Students must not wear any overt make-up unless approval has been granted for medical reasons.
- Heavy eye makeup and lipstick are not permitted.
- Only foundation make-up (skin tone) may be worn for sun protection.
- Nail polish, acrylic or gel nails, if worn, are restricted to a nude colour or a classic French tip and should be of a natural shape. Nails must be maintained to a short length so as to not interfere with activities such as cooking, sport etc.
- Students not complying with these guidelines will be required to remove the makeup/nail polish/acrylic or gel nails and parents will be notified.

TATTOOS

Visible tattoos (including henna) are not permitted with the school uniform.

- Tattoos on school-age students are forbidden by law and are unacceptable in the appearance and presentation of St Augustine College students.

- Visible tattoos are to be covered with a bandage or 'tube' at all times when in uniform. This includes in transit to and from school.
- Any request for an exception are to be made in writing to the Head of School or College Principal. Exceptions may be made for students who are 18 with proven and genuine cultural reasons determined at the discretion of the Head of School or College Principal, and in consultation with cultural Elders. These exceptions would be in very rare circumstances as most cultural tattoos are not readily visible and are not generally available to the young person until they are 18 years of age and they have performed significant cultural service.

NON-UNIFORM SCHOOL OCCASIONS

- Students pay a specified donation for the privilege of wearing a non-uniform.
- It is expected that students will wear clothing appropriate for an educational environment, adhering to workplace health and safety requirements such as being sun-safe and wearing enclosed footwear.
- Students must refrain from wearing revealing (including midriff shirts) and/or offensive garments (inappropriate slogans/logos).

NOTE

We recognise that on occasion young people may require support in various ways, including the wearing of the uniform. If you believe there is a special circumstance in relation to the wearing of the uniform, we invite you speak to the appropriate Pastoral Leader or a member of the College Leadership Team (Primary) in advance to discuss. Requests for variations due to cultural reasons or religious reasons will be considered by the Pastoral Team and College Leadership Team. We ask that parents/carers contact us to discuss.

- Where faith necessitates, the school will make appropriate arrangements to balance these with school uniform requirements.
- On occasions of extreme heat, parents and students will be notified when students are permitted to wear their sport uniform in lieu of their formal uniform. This will be decided by a member of the College Leadership Team.
- Students who wish to wear 'under-shirts' are only permitted to wear white with no print. These should not compromise our uniform standards and are not to be visible.

- In colder months, long sleeved shirts worn under the uniform should not be visible. Students should wear the College jumper and jacket to stay warm. If students are wearing a longer shirt under their uniform-they are to remove this if their jacket/jumper has been taken off.
- The College trackpants are not to be worn with the formal uniform.

BREACHES OF THIS POLICY

St Augustine's College expects all students to wear the correct uniform and maintain appropriate grooming standards. If a student does not comply, the following procedures will apply:

Initial Response:

- In Secondary, students will receive a uniform infringement notice and be supported through the College's Pastoral processes.
- Serious or repeated breaches may result in parent meetings, suspension, or students being sent home until the issue is resolved.

Extra-Curricular Events:

Students must comply with the uniform policy when representing the College at external events or excursions. Non-compliance may affect their participation.

Oversight and Exemptions:

The College Leadership Team, together with Home Group Teachers and Pastoral Leaders, oversees policy implementation. Exemptions may be considered for individual students in special circumstances. Persistent non-compliance may result in withdrawal from class or College events until the matter is resolved.

Support for Families:

If financial hardship prevents a student from meeting uniform requirements, the College will work with families to provide essential items.

PROCEDURES FOR INFRINGEMENTS

Non-compliance may result in a discussion with the student by a teacher, Pastoral Leader or a member of the College Leadership Team.

In Secondary:

Teachers record infringements in the Pastoral App (three infringements result in a lunchtime reflection). It is mandatory for Secondary students to wear their formal uniform on a Tuesday, with non-compliance leading to a lunchtime reflection that day.

Other consequences

- Parental notification via email, phone, or support meeting
- Withdrawal from class or extra-curricular activities
- Collection by caregivers until uniform or grooming issues are rectified

Acceptance of the uniform policy is a condition of enrolment. The College is committed to supporting students and families in meeting these expectations, and debates regarding enforcement will not be accommodated.