



MOUNT MEE
STATE SCHOOL Est.1884

1368 Mt Mee Road
Mt. Mee. QLD. 4521

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MT MEE STATE SCHOOL

Policy and Procedure Statement

DRESS CODE POLICY

Date of publication: 01/04/2012
Date to be reviewed: 01/01/2014



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INTRODUCTION

The Mt Mee State School Dress Code Policy has been developed in consultation with parents and caregivers, school staff, students and the Parents' and Citizens' Association (P&C).

A formal endorsement by the P&C is attached to this policy.

The Mt Mee State School community endorses, supports and expects students to be in uniform.

A uniform is an important part of the development of our school as we agree it presents the first (and often lasting) impression people form about our school and its students. The Mt Mee State School Dress Code assists our school community by:

- allowing for the easy identification of our students on school premises and during regional sporting and cultural events and excursions, critical incidents, safety drills or evacuations;
- alerting our school staff to people who may not belong on our school grounds;
- reducing the pressure of buying name brand and following the latest trends and fads, which minimises any visible economic or social differences between students;
- promoting a sense of common purpose and belonging, consistency and unity in the daily activities of students;
- reflecting the Mt Mee State School's community expectations of student safety and is consistent with the Department of Education and Training's Occupational health and Safety and Anti-discrimination Legislation and Sun Safe Strategy.

DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE EXPECTATIONS

Students wearing items that do not comply with the requirements set out below will be asked to remove the offending item and to store it out of sight for the remainder of the school day. In the case of non-uniform jumpers or tracksuit pants worn during autumn and winter, students will not be required to remove these items unless an equivalent replacement uniform item is provided to replace it during the school day. A refusal to comply will be dealt with in accordance with managing compliance set out below.

Dress

Mt Mee State School requires all students to be in full school uniform when:

- attending or representing school;
- travelling to and from school; and
- engaging in school activities out of school hours.

Mt Mee State School requires students to wear items relating to safety, such as safe footwear and eye protection, which may be necessary in order to participate in certain school activities.



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Personal appearance

Mt Mee State School requires all students to come to school with a clean and tidy appearance:

- hair is to be washed, combed/brushed;
- clothes are to be clean;
- hair colour is to be natural tones ie not multicoloured, not unnatural hair colours (such as pink, blue, green, purple etc)
- hair styles are to be neat and tidy eg no shaved styles, no Mohawks, no words/symbols shaved into the scalp etc.;
- make-up is not to be worn;
- clear nail polish is permitted;
- jewellery is permitted to be worn only if it complies with the following requirements:
 - small sleepers (no bigger than a five cent piece) or small studs (non-protruding items only);
 - one small religious pendant (no bigger than a twenty cent piece) on a thin chain (due to Workplace Health and Safety requirements, this necklace must be worn inside the student's collar/school shirt and may have to be removed to enable participation in certain activities);
 - a signet ring;
 - medical alert bracelets and necklaces.

UNIFORM MODIFICATION AND EXEMPTION

Special needs/individual circumstances modification

Individual circumstances modification

Mt Mee State School recognises that in some situations students may require modifications to the requirements of the school dress code.

These modifications are designed to permit a student to attend the school with maximum compliance with the dress code, recognising that the student may not be able to fully comply (for example, if a student gets permission from the school to colour or shave their head in order to participate in a charitable activity or if a student with a disability finds the present uniform unsatisfactory for their disability).

Requests for exemption

The exceptional circumstances of some students or families may require parent/s to request an exemption.

Conscientious objection

Mt Mee State School recognises that some students and parents may have a conscientious objection (for example, on the basis of genuine religious or cultural grounds) to their children wearing a school uniform and may wish to apply for individual circumstances modification or exemption.

Pre-existing exemption or modification

The Principal will also consider granting an exemption or modification where a student has had a dress code exemption or modification in place at another school, immediately prior to enrolling at Mt Mee State School.

All exemptions will be recorded on student's personal file and OneSchool.



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Application Process

An application for individual circumstances modification or for exemption should be made in writing to the school Principal. The school Principal in considering the application may require additional information from an applicant to satisfy themselves that the application has a genuine basis (as opposed to a mere preference or dislike). The school Principal will endeavour to respond to such an application as soon as practicable after receiving it, either granting the application or refusing it. The School Principal's response will be in writing. Applicants will be afforded natural justice. The school Principal's discretion is final.

Consequences of approval

The exemption or modification allows the student to attend school without receiving a disciplinary consequence applied for the uniform non-compliance, but these students may however be prevented from attending or participating in, any school activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school Principal, is not part of the essential education program of the school (this can include school excursions, extra-curricular activities where the student is associated with the school) and/or be prevented from attending, or participating in, any school activity for which the student would have been representing the school.

MANAGING NON-COMPLIANCE

The following non-compliance process should be undertaken during the student's free time, not during lessons which are part of the essential educational program of the school –

- where a student is inappropriately dressed and does not hold a note from a parent:
 - the student will be offered a choice of correct uniform items from the bank of clothing/uniforms held at the school for the day (to be returned to the school at the end of the school day);
 - if they refuse to accept the offer of a correct uniform item, the student will be sent to the Principal, who will ring the student's home to explain the uniform policy requirements to parents, request parental co-operation in requiring their child to accept the uniform items or where possible, request that the required uniform items be brought to school for the student to change into;
 - if, after this, the student is non-compliant, they will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

SANCTIONS OF NON-COMPLIANCE

Students who are non-compliant, despite the managing non-compliance process above, will be subject to the following consequences for each instance of non-compliance, namely –

- detention; and/or
- preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any activity for which the student would have been representing the school;
- preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any school activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school Principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school (this can include school excursions, extra curricular activities).



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UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop will be opened by requesting an appointment with the Uniform Co-ordinator. These requests are to be made through the school office.

DRESS CODE REVIEW

Mt Mee State School's Dress Code Policy is reviewed annually and submitted to the Parents' and Citizens' Association for support and endorsement.

Review Date

The parent community is regularly consulted on school uniform matters through the P&C.

The Mt Mee State School Dress Code Policy will be reviewed annually.

Parents' and Citizens' Association meetings are held on 2nd Monday of each month.

P&C representatives can be contacted by email at pandc@mtmeess.eq.edu.au for further information on how you can raise issues in relation the Mt Mee State School Dress Code.

PARENTS' AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION ENDORSEMENT

The P&C of Mt Mee State School resolves that it supports the Mt Mee State School Dress Code Policy because it believes that a student dress code at Mt Mee State School promotes the objects of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*.

David Messervy
President
23 April 2012

Trevor Buchanan
Principal
23 April 2012



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Regular Day Uniform

Green shorts/skorts/skirt with Mount Mee School polo shirt or red shirt. During the winter months, students are able to wear stockings of one single colour, black, red, and/or green.

Year 7 Day Uniform

Year 7 students have the option of wearing the official, current Year 7 shirt instead of the regular Mount Mee Shirt.

Shoes

Enclosed shoes.

Hat

The School has a sun-safe policy of No Hat No Play. Our aim is that students accept responsibility for wearing hats at all times when outdoors. A green broad brim or bucket style hat is acceptable.

