

OSC Student Dress Code policy



Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Officer 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 Officer Secondary College's College Council in close consultation with our college community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community. Interpretation of what is deemed to be acceptable under the terms of this policy is at the discretion of the Principal or their representative.

The Student Dress Code aims:

- To foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- To support Officer Secondary College's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- To reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- To enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.
- To promote safety on the College grounds

The College Council has developed a dress code that we believe is cost effective for families.

Scope

Students are required to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities, unless explicitly stated in the activity permission letter.

Uniform and Appearance

The full list of Officer Secondary College's compulsory college 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, Officer 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
- Uniforms, as well as a sports uniform, are prescribed, and are required to be worn.
- Sports Uniform should only be worn on dedicated Sports / PE day. Sports Uniform should not be worn on Health Class days. Skins / Compression wear must not be visible if worn.
- The following additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.
 - A plain white short sleeved t-shirt under the short-sleeved shirt.
 - A plain white long/short sleeved t-shirt under the long-sleeved shirt
 - A plain white or black long/short sleeved t-shirt under the PE Shirt
 - All undershirts must not have a logo on them.
- Non uniform jackets, jumpers, hoodies, beanies, caps and hats are not permitted. Logo socks are not permitted.
- Plain black scarves and black gloves can be worn in cold weather. The OSC Beanie, OSC Cap and OSC Bucket Hat are the only items acceptable to be worn. All buildings are heated, and students will be asked to remove scarves, OSC Beanie/Cap/Bucket hat and gloves inside.
- In line with the Department of Education and Training guidelines about bomb threats in schools, the Officer Secondary College back pack with embroidered logo is the only bag approved by College Council for use at school.
- No modifications to uniform items are to be made. Dress length must be appropriate for a

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school/professional environment. Infringements to this will be treated as an 'Out of Uniform' issue.

- Students who are dressed unsuitably for school or consistently out of uniform may be required to change into school-supplied uniform items or internally suspended. Ongoing inappropriate dress may result in detention, suspension or exclusion from school programs. Parents will be contacted regarding appropriate uniform for students at this College.
- Parents/Guardians seeking exemptions to the Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.
- In Technology subjects, inappropriate shoes for these subjects will result in students being unable to participate in the practical component of these subjects.

Jewellery and cosmetics

- Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Jewellery may be required to be removed for OH&S reasons (at the discretion of the classroom teacher).
- Facial piercings must be small and discrete and facial piercings may be required to be removed for OH&S reasons (at the discretion of the classroom teacher)
- Facial cosmetics may be worn discretely and should not be noticeable (no false eyelashes, no excessive mascara, no heavy eyeliner, no coloured eye shadows and no bright lipstick).
- Only discrete coloured nail polish can be worn.
- Tattoos must not be visible.

Hair and Sun safety

- Long hair is required to be tied up for OH&S reasons at the discretion of the classroom teacher
- Non-natural hair colours and/or extreme hairstyles are not permitted
- Facial hair is permitted provided that it is well groomed in Senior Students

As we are a secondary college, 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. Officer Secondary College recommends all students to wear the college approved SunSmart head cover when outside during Terms 1 and 4. Officer Secondary College Hats are not to be worn inside. The Officer Secondary College Sun Hat is the only hat acceptable for use at Officer Secondary College.

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.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Assistant Principal, your child's SSLCL or the Business Manager 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/>

Officer Secondary College also has a limited supply of uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

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Implementation

Officer Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and at regular intervals through assembly, newsletters etc. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Officer Secondary College Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the college.

- A signed and dated note from the parent/guardian is required at all times when a student is out of uniform. Failure to provide an explanation will result in a detention. A note is valid for 3 school days. Please note – a uniform pass will not be granted for Hoodies, Non School Jumpers, Jackets and Hats.
- Students who are not wearing the approved uniform must report to their Learning Community Assistant before 8:45am to get a uniform pass.
- It is the student's responsibility to maintain the signed uniform pass and produce it when requested. Failure to produce the signed uniform pass will result in a detention being issued.
- If the item of clothing can be removed - the student's non-uniform item will be labelled and stored by the Learning Community Leader, Sub School Leader or Assistant Principal. It will be returned to the student at the end of the day.
- Parents/Guardians will be contacted by the Learning Community Leader if the student continues to be out of uniform. Out of Uniform issues will be documented on Compass by the Sub School Administration Assistant, Learning Community Leader, Sub School Leader or Assistant Principal.
- Any student who fails to follow teachers' instructions regarding uniform will be issued with detention (or suspension).
- Exceptions to the Uniform Policy may be allowed when documented medical or religious reasons exist which are approved by the Principal / Assistant Principal.

Measures taken by Officer 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 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.

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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

Officer Secondary College welcomes feedback from the college 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 college's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on the Officer Secondary College Website.

Communication

- Available publicly on our college website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request
- Reminders in our community bulletin
- 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

Further Information and Resources

- Officer Secondary College Parent Complaint Policy
- Officer 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](#).

Office Use Only

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|------------------|---------------------------|
| Date Implemented | August 2022 |
| Author | Officer Secondary College |
| Approved By | Hamish Moffett |
| Date for Review | August 2023 |

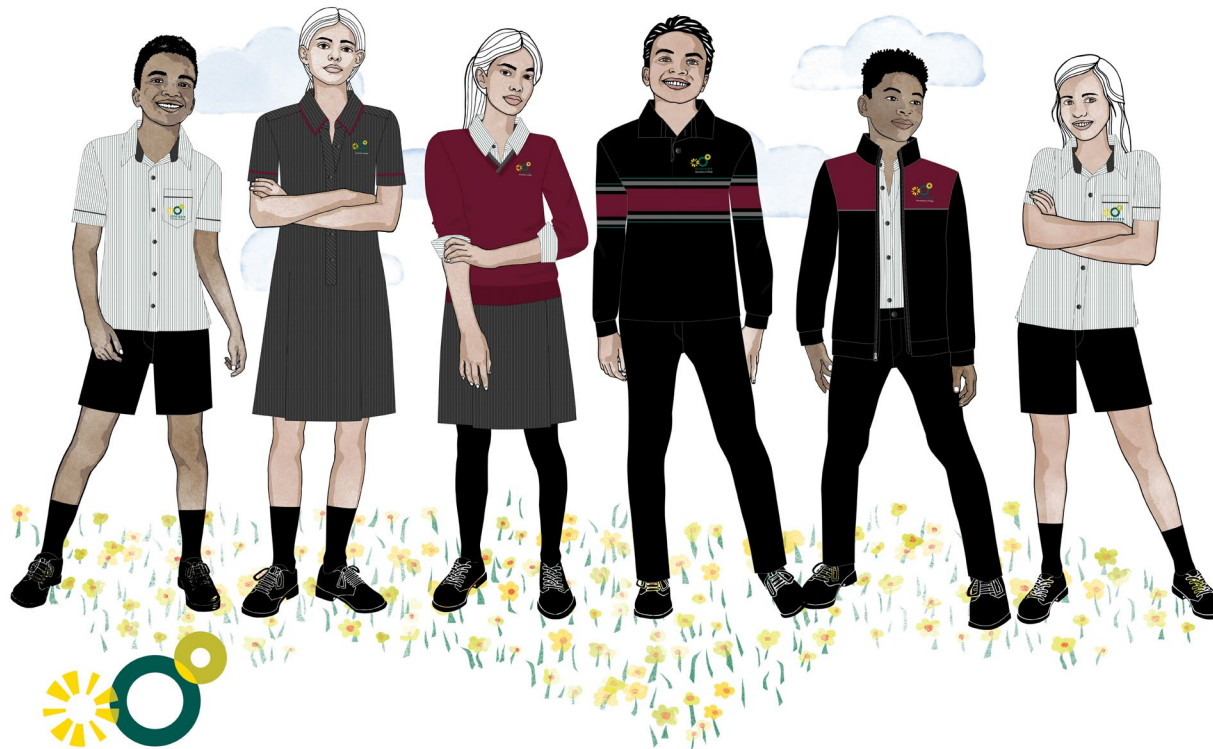
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APPENDIX A: Officer Secondary College UNIFORM ITEMS

Officer Secondary College Uniform is outlined below and is available from Noone Imagewear from December for the start of the 2023 school year.

Academic Uniform

ACADEMIC

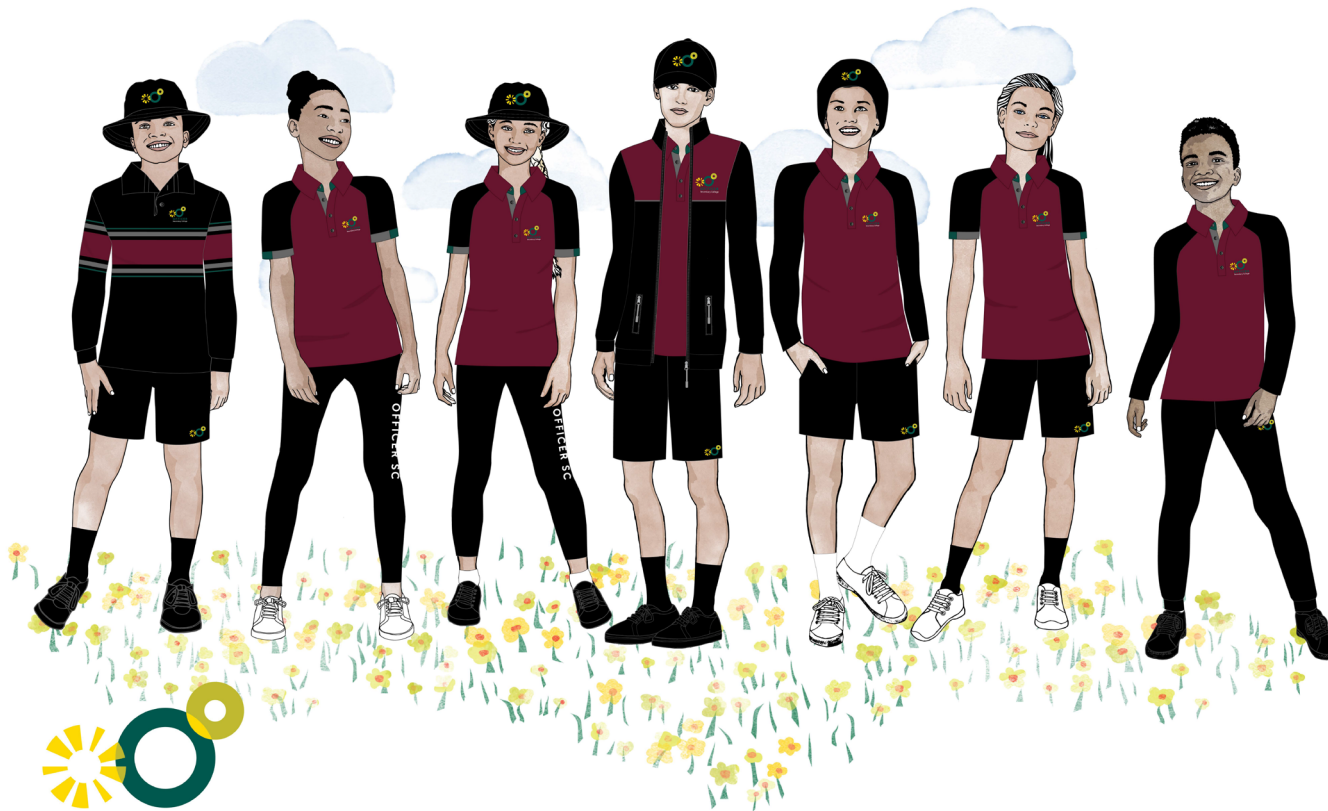


- Hip shirt, short or long sleeve with embroidered logo
- Shorts or pants with embroidered logo
- Dress with embroidered logo
- Skirt with embroidered logo
- Black socks no logo
- Black tights not leggings
- Wool blend jumper with embroidered logo
- Soft Shell jacket with embroidered logo
- Rugby jumper with embroidered logo
- Bucket hat with embroidered logo
- Cap with embroidered logo
- Beanie with embroidered logo

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Sports Uniform (To be worn on dedicated PE days only)

SPORT



- Sport short, pants or leggings with embroidered logo
- Sport shirt, short or long sleeve with embroidered logo
- Black or white socks no logo
- Soft Shell jacket with embroidered logo
- Rugby jumper with embroidered logo
- Bucket hat with embroidered logo
- Cap with embroidered logo
- Beanie with embroidered logo

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Other Uniform items required/rules:

- OSC back pack with embroidered logo is the only approved school bag (OHS requirement)
- Learning Community scarves with embroidered logo
- Rugby jumper is approved to wear with the Academic Uniform
- Leggings are not allowed to be worn with the Academic Uniform
- Students are not allowed to mix the Academic Uniform with the Sports Uniform
- All school shoes must be fully enclosed black school shoes. T-Bars, Ballet slippers, Slip-on shoes and high heels or platform sole are NOT permitted to be worn at school for OHS and safety requirements
- During PE classes runners are permitted to be worn to be active in sport

Uniform Transition chart

| Year | Student year level |
|-------------|---|
| 2023 | Year 7 students can purchase the Noone design school wear which will be available in December for the start of the 2023 school year. Year 7 students can wear the old uniform unless sold out prior Year 8 - 12 (existing and new students) can purchase the new uniform which will be available for the start of the 2023 and can wear the old uniform unless sold out prior |
| 2024 | Year 7 and new students must purchase the Noone designed school wear Year 8 - 12 can purchase the new uniform Old uniform stock will cease to be sold from July 2024 onwards unless sold out prior |
| 2025 | All students are to be wearing the new Noone design school wear at the commencement of the school year. |

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