

 <p><b>DONCASTER</b> SECONDARY COLLEGE</p>	<h2>STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY</h2>
<p>College council will review this policy every 3 - 4 years or as directed by DET</p>	<p><b>Date approved:</b> June 2023</p> <hr/> <p><b>Date of next review:</b> 2026</p>

### RATIONALE

Uniform assists students to develop a sense of pride in belonging to the College community. It enables easy identification of our students at and outside the College. College uniform minimises the cost of clothing for students.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Doncaster 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 Doncaster Secondary 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;
- support Doncaster 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;
- assist in the provision of a safe and secure environment through immediate identification of unauthorised people in the College buildings and grounds;
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

The Victorian Government has granted all School Councils the authority to develop, implement and enforce a student dress code.

Doncaster Secondary College 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.

### GUIDELINES

1. All students are required to wear the designated College uniform.
2. College uniform must be worn correctly to and from the College, at the College and for all College activities unless the Principal gives an exemption for a particular activity such as a social service free dress day.
3. College uniform requirements are described in detail in the student planner.
4. College uniform should be practical and easily available.
5. Specified Doncaster Secondary College sports uniform must be worn for Physical Education and Sport.
6. Provision through such agencies as the State Schools Relief Fund will be available to assist families who have financial difficulty in providing a uniform.
7. All staff members are responsible for monitoring student uniform.
8. The Student Code of Conduct as described in the College Strategic Plan will be implemented to ensure that students comply with uniform requirements.

## **UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE**

The full list of Doncaster Secondary College's compulsory school uniform items are available at **Appendix A** (page 4) to this policy.

### **General Appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Doncaster 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
- Ties need to be worn neatly covering a fastened top button
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

### **Hair, Jewellery and Cosmetics**

Make-up and extreme hairstyles/colour (outside the normal range of colouring for human hair) are not permitted. Any jewellery must be discreetly unobtrusive.

### **Sun safety**

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 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:

PSW School Uniforms  
12 Strathalbyn Street  
KEW

[www.psw.com.au](http://www.psw.com.au)

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the College 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**

Doncaster Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Enrolment documentation. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

1. As required a Uniform Sub-Committee of College Council will make recommendations to Council regarding changes to uniform.
2. A student who is not in complete uniform must bring an explanatory note from a parent/guardian to the appropriate Year Level Co-ordinator prior to the start of the school day.
3. Sub-schools will be responsible for issuing temporary uniform passes to students who provide adequate explanation for being out of uniform.
4. Any student who is out of uniform and who has not obtained a uniform pass shall be referred to the appropriate Level Coordinator.
5. Persistent offenders will be subject to the disciplinary procedures.
6. Details of the College uniforms will be published.
7. Any teacher who plans to organise an excursion where it is inappropriate for students to wear their uniform must discuss the situation with a member of the Principal class team. Parents will be notified when students have been given permission to attend an excursion in casual dress.

### **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.

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**

Doncaster 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 *Complaint Policy*. Please refer to [DSC Website Policies](#)

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#)

## APPENDIX A

## DONCASTER SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

Students may choose to wear either the complete summer OR complete winter uniform throughout the year, however a mix of winter and summer uniforms is not permitted.

SUMMER UNIFORM	
Dress	College design only, knee length
Shirt	College design only, short sleeve
Shorts	College design only, knee length
Long Pants	College design only
Jumper	College design only
Socks	White with dress, Grey Marle or Black with shorts or Long Pants
Shoes	Traditional school shoes: Black polishable leather, lace-up round toe No Runners, T-bars, suede or fashion style shoes

WINTER UNIFORM	
Shirt	College design only, short or long sleeve
Long Pants	College design only
Skirts	College design only, knee length
Jumper	College design only
Tie	College design only – optional item
Tights	Black opaque tights with winter skirt (no socks)
Socks	Grey Marle. Black or PE white with long pants
Shoes	Traditional school shoes: Black polishable leather, lace-up round toe No Runners, T-bars, suede or fashion style shoes
Blazer / Shell Jacket	College design only
Scarf	Black with College logo

\* Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 have the option of a VCE Jumper (regulation red with College insignia)

SPORT / PE UNIFORM Core Items	
College Shorts	
College Polo Top	
College Cap	Logo embossed – compulsory for Terms 1 & 4

\* Students enrolled in PE Units 1-4 must wear VCE design Polo tops for PE

Additional Items include	
College Design Rugby Top	
College Design Black Jacket	
College Design Track Pants	