



# MULGA STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL

## UNIFORM POLICY 2003

*Updated March 2006, May 2007*

### INTRODUCTION

At Mulga Street Primary, all children from Reception to Year 7 are expected to wear the School Dress Code. The Governing Council, in representation of the Whole Community, has determined that it is mandatory that all students will conform to this policy and that all school community members will implement their responsibilities in this matter. The School Colours are Navy Blue, Red and White.

### PURPOSE

- To develop a dress code policy in which students, teachers and parents share in the implementation and management of this policy
- To provide an identification with the school and a positive school image which contributes to the whole school unity and pride
- To develop a high standard of appearance and neatness and also reduce levels of competitive dressing
- Assists in identifying strangers in the school grounds and therefore enables staff to ensure a greater level of safety for students
- Maintains sufficient choice for individuals

### RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Parents/Caregivers

It is expected that parents/caregivers will:

- Ensure that their children are dressed in the school Dress Code when involved in school related activities
- Support the school in the implementation of this policy
- Label all school Dress Code items

#### Students

It is expected that the students will:

- Wear the school Dress Code for all school related activities
- Maintain their appearance to a safe and high standard
- Accept any consequences as a result of continually not wearing the Dress Code

#### Staff

It is expected that staff will:

- Regularly remind students about this policy in a fair but firm way
- Implement this policy and appropriate consequences for continual non wearing of the school Dress Code by students
- Not deny any student access to learning opportunities for the non wearing of the school Dress Code
- Implement strategies to positively reinforce students who comply with this policy eg diary stickers, class graphs etc

## **RATIONALE**

We believe that a school Dress Code:

- Contributes to whole school unity and pride and “belonging”
- Supports social justice initiatives by relieving parents and students of pressures to purchase high cost brand name clothing
- Develops a positive image of Mulga Street Primary School in the wider community
- Assists staff in identifying strangers in the school grounds and therefore enables staff to ensure a greater level of safety for students
- Maintains sufficient choice for individuals
- The Uniform Policy has been determined by the Governing Council after consultation with the school community, parents, students and staff.
- The implementation of the Policy will not be seen as an impediment to attending school
- The Policy will be amended, as necessary, from time to time by the Governing Council
- The responsibility for seeing that the uniform is worn is seen as being that of the parent/s, with support from the school where appropriate



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*Updated May 2007*

The School Uniform is outlined for all students attending events such as excursions, performances, school photographs and inter-school activities as well as normal school days. The policy below is supported by the Governing Council and the Parent Club.

- Polo shirt:** Short or long sleeve polo in white or red  
White or red polo top with blue "Mulga Street Primary School" and a blue line on collar (available from the school)  
Skivvys of above colour
- Windcheater:** Navy blue windcheater unprinted or printed in school emblem (round neck)  
Navy blue windcheater with hoods are acceptable  
No commercial logos are acceptable
- Rugby Top:** Blue fleecy / rugby fabric top with contrasting red collar (available from the school)
- Vests:** Navy blue sleeveless zip upfront - no logos  
- polar fleece  
Navy blue sleeveless knitted vest
- Girls Dress:** Choice of :  
Summer uniform in school colours (material available from Front Office)  
Summer uniform blue/white check  
Winter uniform material available from Front Office  
Dresses or skirts are acceptable (school material or dark blue denim)
- Girls:** Navy Blue Shorts  
Navy blue track suits  
Blue jeans (not baggy) are acceptable  
Blue stubby basketball shorts
- Boys:** navy blue track suits/pants  
Navy blue shorts  
Blue jeans (not baggy) are acceptable  
Blue stubby basketball shorts
- Footwear:** School shoes (brown, black or navy)  
Sandshoes, sneakers  
Sandals

Students need to be in footwear that is safe and appropriate to their life at school. As a guide students need to have footwear that they are safe and comfortable to run in.

As such the following footwear would not be appropriate:

- Thongs

- Shoes with too large heel
- Clogs
- High-leg boots, party shoes
- Open shoes without ankle straps

## Hats

- All students are required to wear a school broad brimmed hat or school bucket hat throughout the year when involved in lessons or recess and lunchtime activities outside.
- **The Broad Brimmed hat or Bucket hat is to be purchased through the school and will appear on the booklist as an option – passed at Governing Council (18/11/02)**
- Baseball caps are not part of the dress code and should remain at home.
- Mulga Street Primary School has a “No Hat, No Play” policy in place all year. The wearing of a hat is seen to be an important part of the dress code and an issue of sun safety.
- Students not wearing a hat will need to go to Area 1 during recess and lunch breaks.

## Shorts and skirts:

- Mid thigh to  $\frac{3}{4}$  length is acceptable.

## Jewellery/Make Up/Hair Accessories/Belts/Singlets:

- No fashion jewellery
- Watches are acceptable
- Plain small studs or sleepers should be placed in pierced ears instead of earrings that may be caught up and cause infections to the ear
- **A short, (no lower than the second button of polo-tops), fine chain necklace for girls, (fine to medium thickness, not chunky, chain for boys) that has a small pendant, (cross or religious symbol), is acceptable. Cord necklaces are not to be worn**
- Jewellery associated with body piercing is not acceptable
- A single fitted bracelet is allowable – no charms etc. **No beaded or other variations of bracelets are to be worn with the exception of fundraising bands which can be worn one at a time when the fundraising is current**
- **A single cygnet or flat gold or silver ring is acceptable**
- Non-uniform Jewellery – student will be required to remove it and collect it from Office at the end of the day
- Make Up is not to be worn
- **Clear nail polish is acceptable, (coloured or glitter nail polish is not acceptable)**
- **Headbands in school colours, (red, white or blue), or black can be worn**
- **Coloured plain hair ties, (or pony tail rings), are acceptable**
- Any other hair accessories, eg hairclips, ribbons, scrunchies, hair ties with baubles, or other decorations, are preferred to be in school colours and are acceptable as long as they do not interfere with the school hat
- **Wide fashion belts are not acceptable**
- **Long fashion singlets with lacy or plain bottoms worn under school uniforms so that they can be seen are not acceptable**

## **Sport Uniform**

- When students representing the school play sport, uniform tops are provided. Parents are asked to purchase navy blue shorts or skirts. There is a good loan scheme in place from 2003. Boys winters sports – red socks

## **Year 7**

- Year 7 students, with teachers involvement, may wear their own designed windcheater in school colours

## **Peer Mediators:**

- Wear specially identifiable hats

## **Choir Students:**

- Also wear specially yearly identifiable tops, negotiated each year

## **Other items available include:**

- Iron on logos
- School bags
- Material for summer and winter girls uniform and names of people who will make uniforms for parents

## **POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT**

- Continuous encouragement in the newsletter, and through assemblies
- Acknowledgment of those children wearing school colours eg stickers in diaries

## **NON COMPLIANCE AND EXEMPTIONS**

### **Staff Authority**

In defining what may not be worn and what does not constitute the school's dress code the Principal or Deputy, in consultation with staff, has the authority to request that certain items of clothing or accessory are not worn at school. This addresses the issue of new and /or fad clothing or accessories that students may wish to wear to school that is not deemed appropriate. Parents will be informed of such decisions by a letter.

Students may be exempted from the School Dress Code upon **written** request to the Principal or Deputy from the parent/caregiver. If this is your intention, we ask that you apply annually for exemption from this policy. Grounds on which parents may seek exemption are:

- Religious
- Medical
- Cultural or ethical
- Itinerant students (new students, time to purchase, wear previous dress code for 2 terms)
- Financial hardship

Exemptions should be sought in the first three weeks of the school year or on arrival when enrolling during the year. The Principal or Deputy can authorise temporary exemption subject to the Governing Council final decision (at the next Governing Council meeting).

No student will be denied access to learning programmes for not wearing the appropriate clothing as outlined by the Dress Code, but parents are expected to support this School Council initiative to project a positive image for our school.

***Parents must notify the school in writing of any short-term request for a child not being in appropriate dress code or requests for longer-term exemption.***

## CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

- If a student is unable to comply with the Dress Code for a short period of time, due to circumstances beyond their control, a note of explanation from the parent, in the diary, on the day in question, needs to be sent to the class teacher.
- In the event of no communication from the parent/s of a student not complying with the policy, then **an unfair loading** is placed on the student and we try to avoid that happening.
- A proforma letter will be drawn up to advise parents when a student is wearing inappropriate clothing in this above circumstance.
- The parents of students so dressed on any given day may be asked via the above letter to provide a note explaining.
- Students who regularly fail to comply with the dress code policy:
  - Senior Staff will request a meeting with parents/caregivers to resolve this issue.

## Physical Education has been a priority in our Partnership Plan 2002-3

- If a child does not have an appropriate hat for a sports or physical education lesson, a note will be entered into his/her diary indicating that the child did not have a hat and this will be followed up by the Principal or Deputy.

## OTHER INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

- **Lost Property**  
All lost property is stored in the front. Please assist us in being able to return “lost property” by **clearly labelling** your child’s belongings, especially clothing and hats.
- **Colouring of Hair**  
The staff and Governing Council recognise some students enjoy changing or streaking their hair colour. School Dress Code **does not** include the use of bright colours in student hair. These colours include bright reds, blues, oranges and other non natural colours for hair.
- **Shoes in the hall**  
No dark soled, studded or high-heeled shoes in the gymnasium.
- **Iron on logos** – are available from the Front Office
- **Making Uniform** – Enquire at the Front Office for the name of a dressmaker who specialises in uniforms
- **School Bags** – are available from the Front Office (optional)
- **Deodorants**  
By the time students reach upper primary, they may wish to wear a suitable deodorant. They may not bring spray bottles or cans of any kind to school.
- **Special Days**  
Sports Days  
Students wear sports outfits and add decorations to show their team loyalty. On this day we allow students to come to school with their hair coloured in their team colour. This may however only be spray on colour able to be washed out that evening.
- **Safety**  
For safety reasons students not wearing the dress code on excursions will need to stay with an adult at all times.
- **Unacceptable Clothing**

These will be explained and discussed with the student in a tactful way

- Midriff or tank tops
- Tops with gaping armholes (tank tops)
- Mini-skirts and brief shorts
- Ripped clothing

### **GOVERNING COUNCIL REVIEW**

The Policy will be implemented in 2003 and will be reviewed regularly and will involve the

- SRC
- Parents
- Staff

**Review date October 2004**