



Uniform Policy

1.0 Rationale

The College Uniform is important in establishing a sense of belonging to the College community and promotes equality amongst all students. For all students, wearing the uniform correctly should be a reflection of both self-respect and College spirit.

2.0 Scope

This policy applies to enrolled students of Catherine McAuley College Bendigo.

3.0 Policy Statement

Catherine McAuley College Bendigo has clearly required uniform expectations, which cover correct wearing of uniform and includes accessories, hair, jewellery and makeup. The College Dress Code and Expectation allows the College to set and enforce reasonable standards of dress and appearance for students.

These expectations accompany the College Uniform List and are clearly communicated to students and prospective students. In accepting an offer to enrol at Catherine McAuley College Bendigo, students as well as parents and carers, agree to adhere to the College Dress Code and Expectations, as per the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Dress Code is developed with consideration of health and safety as well as human rights and anti-discriminations requirements. It increases the sense of belonging to and engagement with the College for all students and enables all students to participate fully in school life.

The College undertakes to liaise with a reputable supplier to ensure that as far as is reasonably possible, the uniform is available, of good quality and affordable.

Families having difficulties meeting uniform requirements will be referred to the Family Support Program for assistance.

3.1 Dress Code and Expectations

The Dress Code and Expectations apply to all students on their way to and from the College, as well as while at the College, representing the College and attending activities.

3.2 Seasonal Variations

Winter Uniform (Terms 2 and 3)

- Full winter academic uniform is to be worn during Terms 2 and 3.
- Long or short sleeve shirts to be worn, tucked in.
- Long pants or shorts may be worn. This applies to both boys and girls wearing pants.
- A tie is compulsory during Terms 2 and 3, regardless of long or short sleeved shirt.
- The College blazer is a compulsory winter uniform item and is worn as a top layer (with or without the jumper underneath). The blazer must be worn to and from school during Terms 2 and 3. This is the minimum expectation. Students are also encouraged to wear their blazer throughout the school day for additional warmth.
- Blazers may be stored in lockers when not being worn during the day.

Summer Uniform (Terms 1 and 4)

- Full summer academic uniform is to be worn during Terms 1 and 4.
- The bucket hat must be worn at all times when students are outside during Terms 1 and 4.
- Long pants or shorts may be worn. This applies to both boys and girls wearing pants.
- The blazer is optional during Terms 1 and 4 but may be required for special occasions.

3.3 Uniform Exemptions

Coolock Subject Exemptions

Students may wear sport uniform on the days that they have:

- Physical Education practical double periods
- Year 9 Agriculture practical double sessions
- Sports trials and training
- Other exemptions as required, to be approved by the Assistant Principal.

St Mary's Subject Exemptions

Students may wear sport uniform on the days that they have:

- Physical Education practical sessions
- VET Agriculture
- VET Sport & Recreation
- Sports Trials and Training
- Other exemptions as required to be approved by the Assistant Principal.

For all other classes, students must be in full College uniform.

Special Year 12 Variations

During Year 12 the students are involved in the consultation, design and purchase of the Year 12 rugby top. The rugby top may be worn throughout the year but is not compulsory.

3.4 Casual Clothes Day Guidelines

Casual Clothes Days are organised as a part of the fundraising activities of the College. As with any other school day, students are expected to wear neat and tidy serviceable clothes that avoid extremes in fashion. The acceptable standard of dress for a Casual Clothes Day will be reasonable attire in line with the College Code of Conduct and health and safety guidelines. The final decision as to what is acceptable rests with the relevant Assistant Principal.

In the event of student dress not complying with these guidelines on a Casual Clothes Day, the parent/carer will be contacted and asked to bring appropriate clothing to school or arrangements will be made for the parent/carer to collect their child from school.

As a general guide to what is an appropriate standard of dress for such occasions the following points are made:

- All tops must cover the shoulders and should not be low cut.
- All tops should be of sufficient length to cover the midriff.
- Tops should not be see-through.
- Shorts, skirts and dresses should be of a reasonable length - mid thigh or longer.
- Shirts and t-shirts should not have inappropriate or offensive logos or messages.
- Singlet tops are not to be worn.
- All footwear must completely cover the foot as a safety measure. Sandals or thongs are not permitted.
- If a student has a Sport / PE practical lesson on the day, their clothing should be of a nature that allows them to participate in the lesson.
- Shoulder length hair needs to be tied up, as a health and safety consideration.

College Camps and Excursions

The guidelines for casual clothes apply to all camps and excursions, with exceptions made where some activities require specialist equipment / clothing that may vary due to the nature of the activity. These variations will be communicated with the guidelines and expectations of the relevant camp or activity.

3.5. Breaches and consequences

Failure to present in correct uniform is divided into two main categories: approved and unapproved. An approved uniform pass is when a student provides a valid note from a parent/carer outlining a reasonable explanation for the uniform breach.

Excess presentations of approved uniform breaches will be monitored and followed up by teaching staff or Year Level Coordinators. Refer to the Uniform Breach Procedure for out-of-uniform processes.

Repeated unapproved uniform breaches may result in disciplinary action.

4.0 Definitions

Assistant Principal – appointed member of the Executive Leadership Team of Catherine McAuley College Bendigo

Parents/Carers - natural biological parents, carers or legal guardians of a currently enrolled student

Prospective students – students considering or applying to enrol at Catherine McAuley College Bendigo

Staff – all Catherine McAuley College Bendigo staff including teachers and support staff, employed, seconded or appointed by Catherine McAuley College Bendigo

Students - enrolled students of Catherine McAuley College Bendigo

The College – Catherine McAuley College Bendigo

5.0 Duty of Care

Catherine McAuley College is a Child Safe School. We owe all students and staff a duty of care to take reasonable measures to protect them from risks of injury that should have been reasonably foreseen. All on and off-site activities require appropriate supervision and greater measures may need to be taken for younger students or students with disabilities to meet this duty of care. The College's risk assessment procedures and emergency management plan provide the processes for ensuring the above is achieved.

6.0 Minimum Standards

The College monitors its compliance with the minimum standards in line with Ministerial Order 1359 in an ongoing manner.

7.0 Related Policies, Procedures, & forms

- Code of Conduct - Student
- CMC Uniform Breach Procedure
- College Dress Code and Expectations

Date Last Reviewed:	12 November 2024
Policies Owner	Assistant Principal - Campus - Len Watson & Suzie Kemp
Approved By/ Date	CMC Leadership - 12 november 2024
Frequency of Review	3 years
Version Number	1.1 - Minor changes made to include a clear nose ring and shorts or pants to be worn all year round for males.