

# WEST LAKES SHORE SCHOOL

## DRESS CODE/UNIFORM POLICY

### BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Education Regulation 189A of the Administrative Instructions and Guidelines, School Councils are authorised to determine the school dress policy. In 1995, School Council passed the following motion: *“The Council endorses the implementation of a uniform policy offering a specific range of colour coded items.”*

### RATIONALE

We believe that a school dress code:

- contributes to whole school unity and pride
- develops individual self-esteem through the feeling of “belonging”
- contributes to the development of a supportive school environment, by reducing levels of competitive dressing
- supports social justice initiatives by relieving parents and students of pressures to purchase high cost brand name clothing
- develops a positive image of West Lakes Shore School R-7 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
- assists in identifying students during excursions and in the school grounds
- maintains sufficient choice for individuals

### COLOUR CODE & ACCEPTABLE ITEMS OF CLOTHING

*The items of clothing that are acceptable are:*

**Plain Navy:** shorts, skortz, bike shorts, track pants, trousers, cargo pants, jazz pants, netball skirts, and tights (with feet). Items that are faded to a shade, which is not clearly navy are unacceptable. **Jeans/Denim are not acceptable.**

**Plain Navy and/or jade:** T-shirts, cotton shirts, windcheaters, jumpers, polo shirts, uniform dress, uniform items as per school stock, cardigan, jacket, skivvy. **White tops are not acceptable.**

While LOWES is our school uniform supplier, parents may purchase elsewhere as long as they follow the dress code.

### HATS

As a Sun Smart school our policy requires children to wear a hat in Terms 1 and 4 for all outside activities. During Terms 2 and 3 each year, students may elect to wear or not wear their hats in the yard at recess and lunch times. Students not wearing a hat during sport in Term 1 and 4 are to sit in the shade.

Appropriate hats are navy blue broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hats. Hats are available from Lowes or the School Front Office (pending availability). All hats should be clearly labelled with your child’s name. Baseball caps are not appropriate headwear as they do not cover the ears and neck.

Children not wearing hats are required to play in the central courtyard or library. Children must follow agreed behaviour expectations in these areas.

Students who refuse to follow instructions from staff when directed to the courtyard or library will receive a reflection and parents will be informed via the standard proforma sent home. Leaders will monitor students who persistently and wilfully do not follow staff instructions and/or do not wear hats.

Students must keep their hats at school all year round for use during outside classroom activities and for those occasions when the UV radiation levels are high. School staff determined when students should wear their hats. This will be communicated to students as a required ‘Hat Day’.

## THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Parents/caregivers are not compelled to purchase garments through LOWES.
- Students will be expected to wear school colours for all learning activities including those outside the school.
- Clothing should be clearly labelled, thus reducing the amount of unclaimed lost property.
- Jewellery is not permitted for safety reasons, with the exception of a watch, sleeper earrings, medic alerts & religious symbols (religious symbols on a chain are to be worn under the uniform), jewellery associated with body piercing is not appropriate.
- Make up or nail polish is **not** a part of school uniform and therefore not acceptable. Children will be sent to the front office to remove it.
- Clothing with brand names, writing or pictures is not acceptable.
- Hooded sweatshirts or tops are not acceptable. Hooded rain jackets are acceptable to be worn to and from school only and must be removed in the classroom.
- Footless black leggings are not acceptable.
- Brief shorts are not acceptable.
- Tights/stockings may be worn under the school dress.
- Track Pants are not acceptable to be worn under the school dress.
- Hair colouring / extensions are not acceptable (non-natural colours).
- Tattoos are not acceptable.
- Stripes or logos are not acceptable.
- Parents have the right to request exemption for their children on specific grounds (cultural, religious, etc) in accordance with DoE regulations.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

- Footwear should meet safety standards (backed/rubber soled) and not limit involvement in educational programmes. **Thongs, clogs, platform, slip ons and high heeled shoes which are heavy or slip off easily are not suited to active involvement in learning activities and are not acceptable.** Shoes must be tied securely at all times and be a colour blending or matching with our school colours.
- It is recommended those girls wearing skirts or dresses, wear bike or sports pants underneath to enable them to participate in physical education, and play on equipment without embarrassment.
- To help prevent the spread of head lice, hair shoulder length or longer must be tied back.

## CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

- Students who regularly fail to comply with the dress code policy will meet with senior staff. A note will be sent to parent/caregiver asking them to support our policy.

## COUNCIL'S REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed regularly and will involve SRC, parents and staff.