



DRESS STANDARDS

Intent

The Parents and Citizens Association has endorsed a compulsory school uniform based on the school colours of green and black. This helps enormously in promoting the school's identity, cohesion, tone, pride and spirit. Students are required to wear the complete school uniform in a modest manner to promote a positive image of the school to the community while on the way to and from school, at school events and on excursions.

Summary

The wearing of a uniform enables ready identification of students and eliminates the distraction of competition in dress. Mutual respect is developed as the evidence of economic and social differences is removed. In the long term, a uniform is cost effective for families and promotes a sense of belonging. Workplace Health and Safety requirements are met by our uniform policy.

No jewellery is to be worn, except for one watch, one pair of small sleepers or studs in the ear and small religious or cultural items on a long chain under the school uniform (not visible). No other jewellery or piercings are to be worn to school. Visible make-up or coloured nail polish is not permitted. Hair must be clean, of a natural colour, and kept in a neat and tidy manner. It should be worn in a non-extreme style.

Applications for enrolment are accepted only after an agreement to comply with the Uniform Policy has been signed by both students and parents.

Policy

Students will be regularly reminded of their responsibility to comply with our uniform policy and parents will be notified if there is an ongoing problem. Students will be encouraged through positive reinforcement and polite reminders to wear the correct uniform. When a student comes to school in non-school clothing or acceptable footwear they should be directed to the Student Hub to borrow the correct uniform item for the day. However, if there is a persistent refusal to wear correct uniform disciplinary consequences may be applied.

Uniform Standards and Appearance

We endeavour to build positive relationships, value differences, encourage life-long learning and contribution to school, family and community. This is a shared responsibility between students, parents and school. To do this in relation to appearance, we have a school uniform, and when worn daily serves to connect students with our school and our community. Many of our young people are already in the work force and understand the need to observe the reasonable standards our school makes for uniform and appearance. It is understood that health and safety requirements are non-negotiable.

Parent and student support and monitoring for uniform appearance supports the work of Year Coordinators and staff in presenting our school with a well-dressed cohort. Prospective employers and members of the wider school community take notice of how well students are dressed in their uniform and often make judgements about employment or student involvement based on this visible presentation.



All uniform items, except shoes, socks and pantyhose, are available readily from the Uniform Shop. Some sizes may require pre-ordering to ensure adequate supplies exist.

Respect

Students are asked to wear their school uniform as outlined in the policy, without additions or changes.

It is a simple, cost effective uniform, readily available from the P & C Shop. The Parents and Citizens Association has endorsed a compulsory school uniform based on the school colours of green and black. This helps enormously in promoting the school's identity, cohesion, tone, pride and spirit. Students are required to wear the complete school uniform in a modest manner to promote a positive image of the school to the community while on the way to and from school, at school events and on excursions.

Responsibility

The wearing of a uniform enables ready identification of students and eliminates the distraction of competition in dress. Mutual respect is developed as the evidence of economic and social differences is removed. In the long term, a uniform is cost effective for families and promotes a sense of belonging. Workplace Health and Safety requirements are met by our uniform policy. Appearing well dressed in the school uniform indicates a readiness to learn and a willingness to be a responsible member of the student body at Merrimac State High School.

Reliability

At enrolment, parents and students signed to indicate they agreed to support the Uniform Policy of this school. It is important that you maintain this level of support for uniform for the entire enrolment period.

Students will be regularly reminded of their responsibility to comply with our uniform policy and parents will be notified if there is an ongoing problem. Students will be encouraged through positive reinforcement and polite reminders to wear the correct uniform. However, if this fails disciplinary consequences may be applied. Detentions for uniform infringements are held on Saturday morning.

Uniform Features

Shoes Leather shoes, either predominantly black or predominantly white in colour, lace up school shoes provides reasonable protection for students in classroom and learning activities. The chosen school shoe must provide adequate foot protection and be resistant to liquid spills to comply with Workplace Health and Safety guidelines. Most parents chose to buy one pair of leather shoes, in a sports style, which accommodates both classroom and sports activities. To satisfy our standards of appearance boots ankle, knee high, Doc Martens are inappropriate for school use. To satisfy our safety requirements mesh, canvas, or fabric shoes are unsuitable for school use. Coloured shoes or shoelaces are unacceptable.

School Hats or Caps are required to be worn by junior students, and encouraged to be worn by senior students, when they are playing in the sun or involved in an activity requiring sun protection. Students are encouraged to apply sunscreen to increase sun protection.



Blazers are on loan to students when they are representing the school for special occasions.

Band Uniform Students who represent the school in band events will wear black dress trousers, black socks, black dress shoes (supplied by student) to be worn with white shirt with emblem and vest (borrowed on an annual basis from the uniform Shop).

Jewellery No jewellery is to be worn, except for one watch, one pair of small sleepers or studs in the ear and small religious or cultural items on a long chain under the school uniform (not visible). No other jewellery or piercings are to be worn to school.

Make Up Visible make-up, eyelash extensions, false fingernails or coloured nail polish is not permitted, only clear nail polish is allowed.

Hair Must be clean, of a natural colour, and kept in a neat and tidy manner. Extreme hair styles are not permitted. These include mohawks, rat tails, shaved patterns or number one cuts plus colouring of hair.

School Sport Representative Jacket Students representing the school in district or state level sports are invited to wear their team's sporting jacket during winter (Term 2 and 3). Hoodies are not permitted.

Sports Summit students have a designated shirt and hat which are able to be worn only during the school day.

Dance Summit students have a dance uniform to be worn at representative activities. Students are allowed to wear the jacket during Terms 2 and 3.

Girls Rugby League Team uniform to be worn at games and representative activities only.

School Appearance

The following banned items are not part of the uniform and are not to be worn to school:

- Scarves, Beanies, Bandanas, Multi-coloured headbands
- Visible undershirts or visible slogans, logos, sleeves
- Hoodies, non-school jumpers or jackets
- Leggings, pleated netball skirts
- Visible tattoos



Sports Unisex Uniform – for sports and daily wear

SPORT TOP	Polo shirt with school emblem
SHORTS	Black rugby knit with school emblem
SOCKS	White, above ankle socks
SHOES	Black or white leather or leather type lace up sports shoe. No mesh or ankle high boots
JUMPER	Bottle green fleecy or knitted jumper with school emblem
JACKET	Bottle green/white piping microfibre with school emblem
TRACK PANTS	Bottle green/white piping microfibre with school emblem
HAT	MSSH bucket hat or cap

Girls Dress Uniform– for daily and formal occasions, most excursions and school photos.

All girls are expected to wear a blouse, white ankle socks, black lace up shoes a tie and skirt or trousers as their formal uniform at all evening events and ceremonies.

GIRLS BLOUSE	White blouse with green piping on collar and sleeve
SKIRT	Checked pleated skirt (worn at a length which is within 5cm of the top of the knee), knee length black pantyhose/tights
TROUSERS	Long black tailored pants (denim, active wear, stretch not allowed)
TIE	MSSH bottle green tie
SHORTS	Unisex black zip shorts with school tag.
SOCKS	White, above ankle socks
SHOES	Black leather or leather type lace up school shoe. No mesh or ankle high boots
JUMPER	Bottle green fleecy or knitted jumper with school emblem

Boys Dress Uniform - for daily and formal occasions, most excursions and school photos.

All boys are expected to wear a tie, shirt, black ankle socks, black lace up shoes and trousers as their formal uniform at all evening events and ceremonies.

BOYS SHIRT	White short sleeved shirt
TIE	MSSH striped bottle green tie
SHORTS	Unisex black zip shorts with school tag.
TROUSERS	Long black tailored pants (denim, active wear, stretch not allowed)
SOCKS	White, above ankle socks
SHOES	Black leather or leather type lace up school shoe. No mesh or ankle high boots
JUMPER	Bottle green fleecy or knitted jumper with school emblem

**It is compulsory for all Year 12 Students to have a Day Uniform, including the school tie.*

**It is compulsory for all Year 11 and Year 12 Students to wear a Day Uniform, including the MSSH tie for school photos.*



Junior Sport Uniform



Senior Sport Uniform



Dress Uniform



Formal Uniform



Acceptable School Shoes as per examples shown.



Unacceptable School Shoes as per examples shown.





When students present in the incorrect uniform e.g. shoes/ socks/ shorts the procedure is as follows:

1. The students report to student hub with the incorrect shoes/ socks/ shorts.
2. Students are offered a clean and sanitized uniform item and their corresponding items are stored for the day at school.
3. If shoes are needed, school shoes and socks are provided and the student's shoes are stored for the day at school. Students are to wear the school socks over their own to minimise any hygiene concerns.
4. At the end of the day, students report back to the student hub and exchange their school supplied shoes and or socks for those that they were wearing at the beginning of the day
5. All socks are then washed and sanitized, they are dried and made ready for the next day. The school's shoes are sprayed with an aerosol sanitizer.

A similar process is undertaken as above if the student is wearing a non- school uniform item of clothing (e.g. shorts, shirt or jumper)