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. However, if this fails 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.

Uniform Features

Shoes Leather shoes, either predominantly black or predominantly white in colour and lace-up to provide 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 from P & C Shop). This is a unisex uniform and is to be worn at all band performances.
Jewellery  
No jewellery 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 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.

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. Hoodies are not permitted.

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, or hoods
- Hoodies, non-school jumpers or jackets
- Rugby shorts, Leggings, pleated netball skirts
- Facial piercings, visible tattoos

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.

Sports Unisex Uniform – for sports and daily wear

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPORT TOP</td>
<td>Polo Shirt with school emblem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHORTS</td>
<td>Black with school emblem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCKS</td>
<td>White, ankle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| SHOES      | Black or white leather or leather type lace up sports shoe.  
|            | No mesh or ankle high boots                      |
| JUMPER     | Green with school emblem                         |
| JACKET     | Green microfiber with school emblem              |
| TRACK PANTS| Green microfiber with white piping               |
Day Uniform Girls— for daily and formal occasions, most excursions and school photos.

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

- **GIRLS BLOUSE**: White blouse with school emblem
- **SKIRT**: Green front pleats, knee length
- **TROUSERS**: Black tailored pants, driveway, stretch not allowed
- **TIE**: MSHS Tie
- **SHORTS**: Black with school emblem
- **SOCKS**: White, ankle
- **SHOES**: Black or white leather or leather type lace up school shoes. No mesh or ankle high boots
- **JUMPER**: Green with school emblem

Day Uniform Boys - 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, with school emblem
- **TIE**: MSHS Tie
- **SHORTS**: Black with school emblem
- **TROUSERS**: Black tailored pants, activity, stretch not allowed
- **SOCKS**: White, ankle
- **SHOES**: Black or white leather or leather type lace up school shoes. No mesh or ankle high boots
- **JUMPER**: Green with school emblem

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

Senior Sport Uniform

Day Uniform

Acceptable School shoes
As students present as having the incorrect shoes or socks the procedure is as follows:

1. The students report to student hub who have the incorrect shoes and or socks.

2. Students are offered a clean and sanitized pair of appropriate socks and their socks 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.