# Merrimac State High School Gold Coast, Australia

## DRESS STANDARDS

#### INTENT

The Parents and Citizens Association has endorsed a compulsory school uniform based on the school colours of green, black and grey. 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, fake eye lashes and extreme length fake nails 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 'professional' style.

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

All uniform items can be purchased from the Uniform Shop or Flexischools.com.au (with the exception of shoes and stockings.)

#### **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 Deans 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.





From 2023 all students will transition from wearing the formal school uniform. The transition period is:

2023: All Year 7 and 10 students will wear the formal school uniform 5 days a week.\*

2024: All students 7, 8, 10, 11 will wear the formal school uniform 5 days a week.\*

2025: All students will wear the formal school uniform 5 days a week.\*

\*Exception being school sport uniform on Inter-School sport dates.

#### **UNIFORM FEATURES**

**Shoes** Leather shoes, polishable black, 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. Leather shoes, in a sports style can accommodate 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. (See image)

**School Hats or Caps** are only encouraged to be worn by all 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, available at the Student HUB.

**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 be advised as to whether formal uniform or an alternative is required for performances.

**Summit** students have a designated uniform which can be worn for summit lessons or formal competitions.

### **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 Year 7 and 10

SPORT TOP Polo shirt with school emblem

SHORTS Black rugby knit with school emblem

SOCKS School socks

SHOES Black leather type lace up sports shoe.

No mesh or ankle high boots

JUMPER School jumper with school emblem

JACKET Bottle green with school emblem

TRACK PANTS Bottle green with school emblem

HAT MSHS bucket hat or cap

#### Formal Uniform-

All students are expected to wear their formal uniform.

BLOUSE Green blouse - Year 7, 8 (from 2024) & 9 (from 2025)

White blouse with green piping on collar and sleeve - Year 10, 11 (from

2024) & 12 (from 2025)

SHIRT Green short sleeved shirt (Year 7, 8 & 9)

White short sleeved shirt (Year 10, 11 & 12)

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 MSHS bottle green tie with blouse

MSHS striped bottle green tie with shirt

SHORTS Charcoal zip shorts

SOCKS Green and white above ankle school socks

SHOES Black leather type lace up school shoe

No mesh or ankle high boots

JUMPER Fleecy or knitted jumper with school emblem

\*It is compulsory for all Year 7, 10, 11 & 12 Students to have a Formal Uniform, including the school tie and to wear a Formal Uniform, including the MSHS tie for school photos.





## Junior Sport Uniform

Senior Sport Uniform





**Formal Uniform** 

**Formal Uniform** 











Acceptable School Shoes as per examples shown

Shoes must be BLACK leather or imitation leather only - polishable.



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)

