



Sacred Heart School Uniform Policy

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to describe Sacred Heart School's approach to ensuring students maintain a high standard of dress and grooming. In doing so, the students will present an appropriate school image to the broader community and each other. The purpose of this policy is to:

- To promote equality amongst all students.
- To further develop a sense of pride in and identification with our school.
- To provide durable clothing that is cost-effective and practical for our school environment.
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of self and the school in the community.

This policy must be read in conjunction with the Sacred Heart School SunSmart Policy.

2. RATIONALE

The Sacred Heart School Uniform Policy reinforces in students a pride in their appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the policy.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

Sacred Heart School will have a school uniform that provides adequate sun protection, is suitably modest, allows freedom of movement, is comfortable and durable, and does not impose financial burdens on parents. The wearing of a full school uniform is compulsory, and we see the enforcement of this policy as a shared responsibility between home and school.

4. PRINCIPLES

- **Subsidiarity:** decisions on school uniforms must be informed by consultation at the local school level. Input from the school community should be sought as part of a discussion and discernment accountability. School uniforms must be consistent with health and safety considerations, e.g. sun-safe, protective clothing, clothing appropriate to curriculum activities
- **Practicality:** school uniforms must contribute to the well-being of students by providing adequate protection from the elements and a degree of comfort that allows for full participation in all school activities, including play, sport and other physical and recreational activities.
- **Affordability:** attention must be given to cost considerations when school uniform options are determined. This includes durability of uniform materials to reduce replacement costs and possible staged introduction of new uniforms.
- **Equity, Diversity and Choice:** the school must provide uniform options or modifications, including shorts and pants, in all uniform categories for all students, reflecting the diverse needs of students and supporting student mental health and well-being.
- **Responsiveness:** allowance must be made for adjustments to the school's student dress code to cater to specific student modifications or exemptions, such as wearing clothing that conforms to the observance of faith.