



Why Do We Wear a Uniform?

School uniforms assist the *inclusive* nature of our College. A uniform is a great *leveler*. It does not matter whether you are wealthy, poor, have great fashion sense or little fashion sense; when you come to school, everyone pretty much looks the same. This *reduces competition* and focus on the way we look. It helps *reduce bullying* and ensures that everyone who attends St Francis Catholic College feels like they belong.

If the uniform is worn well, everyone wins. It's great for students, parents and the College. Students win because they develop a routine in what they wear and can develop *greater independence* in preparing themselves for school. They have an assurance that when they come to school, the focus will not be on what they are wearing but on what they are learning.

Parents win because school is not a fashion show. We don't want parents being hassled by their children into buying expensive name brands or having the expense of chasing the latest fashion fads.

The College wins because if the College uniform is worn well and members of the public see students taking pride in their appearance and their school identity, it can enhance our reputation in the community, encouraging further quality students to our College.

General Standards:

1. Wearing the College uniform is compulsory for all students attending St Francis Catholic College. Students are expected to set the highest possible standard of dress at all times. They should take pride in their appearance, be pleasant and courteous. Students are expected to be good ambassadors for the College. They should recognise that whilst they wear the College uniform they represent the College, therefore uniform standards should be maintained outside of regular College hours until the full uniform is removed.
2. With the exception of shoes, only items purchased at the College Uniform Shop are to be worn by St Francis Catholic College students. When wearing the uniform, students are expected to be in full College or full Sport uniform - not a mixture of winter and summer uniforms.
3. The uniform is to be cared for, washed, pressed and repaired when necessary.
4. St Francis Catholic College has established a relationship with the 'Athlete's Foot' stores in Campbelltown, Liverpool and the store soon to be established in Narellan. The stores have agreed to supply College approved school shoes and sports shoes and offer a discount to parents as well as providing a bonus to the College. Parents can be guaranteed that if they identify themselves as a parent of St Francis, they will be provided with durable, supportive footwear that is acceptable to the College. Parents are however, free to purchase footwear from any supplier as long as it complies with the following requirements:

School shoes should be black, polishable leather and fully enclosed. Velcro straps & buckle shoes are permitted for students K-4. Lace up school style shoes are required for students 5-12. Shoes must be kept clean and school shoes should be polished regularly.

Sports shoes should be predominately white runners. Basketball boots & styles with high ankle support are not permitted.

5. For students Year 5 and above the College blazer and tie is compulsory during Terms 2 & 3 and when formally representing the College.

6. A range of College knitwear is available to be purchased but is optional as additional layers for warmth. The College pullover and cardigan is to worn with the sleeves down at all times.

7. The College hat (Kinder - Year 8) or cap (Years 9-12) is the only head dress to be worn at school. It is compulsory to wear to and from College and at all times when out in the sun.

8. All items of College uniform should be clearly marked with the student's full name.

Jewellery:

Students may only wear the following items of jewellery with their College uniform:

Boys:

- A watch or activity tracker (Please note that Smartwatches are not permitted)
- A plain silver or gold necklace/chain with a small crucifix

Girls:

- A watch or activity tracker (Please note that Smartwatches are not permitted)
- A plain silver or gold necklace/chain with a small crucifix
- Small gold or silver plain sleeper or stud earrings for those with pierced ears. Only one earring per ear and these are only to be worn in the lower lobe of each ear.

Hair:

All students should present each day with hair that has been styled to appear neat and tidy. Extremes of cut, colour and style that draw attention are prohibited. If concerns are raised, the College Principal will make a determination on the appropriateness of any student's hair style.

Standards for Boys:

Boys are to have hair that is short, above the collar, off the face and ears. They should be clean shaven at all times and may be asked to shave at College if they do not comply.

Standards for Girls:

Long hair must be tied up for girls K-8. Girls in Years 9-12 may have their hair out. Hair accessories should be modest and in College colours.

Cosmetics, Make Up, Nail Polish & Acrylic Nails:

Cosmetics, make-up and tinted moisturiser are not permitted to be worn with the College uniform. Girls in Year 5 or higher are permitted to wear nail polish but only if it is clear or 'french tip'. Acrylic and other fake nails are not permitted.

Tattoos:

Permanent tattoos are not permitted for students of the College. Non-permanent tattoos may only worn on special occasions and with the permission of the College Principal.

Sports Uniform:

The Sports uniform is only to be worn on Sport days or on a day of a PDHPE practical class. Students are required to wear the College hat/cap for all sport activities and practical PDHPE lessons. Predominately white runners are to be worn with the College sports uniform.

Consequences of Incorrect Uniform:

Students who are not wearing the correct uniform are to present a note (in the diary for students Years 5-12) from a parent/carer identifying the reason. The note will be signed and dated by a staff member. Students are to carry this note with them for the remainder of the school day and should produce the note to staff if asked.

Infringements to uniform policy (even with a note from a parent) will be recorded on our student management system. Students may have offending items of clothing or jewellery confiscated or may be placed on an in-school withdraw. For regular breaches of uniform policy, students may be placed on an out of school suspension until the issue is adequately addressed. Ultimately, the College Principal will decide on the consequences for uniform infringements.

Confiscated Items of Clothing & Jewellery:

Items of clothing /jewellery that do not conform with these stated regulations may be confiscated from students and stored at the College Reception. A parent will be required to come to the College Reception to collect the confiscated item/s or the items will be returned at the end of each school term.

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