



Gwandalan Public School – Uniform Policy

(Updated March 2024)

RATIONALE

The wearing of a school uniform is important to the overall image of the school and its tone. It contributes to a child's feeling of equality, belonging and pride in their school. The wearing of a school uniform reflects our high community standards and expectations and ensures that the school is easily identified within the community. Requirements of Health and Safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation have been considered in the development of the Gwandalan Public School Uniform Policy.

Extensive community consultation has taken place when considering the options available.

The wearing of the school uniform offers children a degree of safety as they are recognisable to parents and community members in the local area. 'The Department of Education supports the wearing of school uniforms by students and the upholding of high standards of dress by students. The Department recognises that NSW has a long history of school uniforms or dress codes being decided by the local school community.'

The wearing of school uniforms by students will assist the school community to:

- define an identity for the school within its community;
- develop students' sense of belonging to the school community;
- provide an opportunity to build school spirit;
- enhance the health and safety of students when involved in school activities;
- promote a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity;
- reinforce the perception of the school as an ordered and safe environment;
- increase the personal safety of students and staff by allowing easier recognition of visitors and potential intruders in the school;
- promote positive community perceptions of public education; and
- make school clothing more affordable for families.

The whole school community has a role to play in encouraging the meeting of the standards set by the wearing of our uniform.

GUIDELINES

The Gwandalan Public School uniform was decided upon through consultation with a school uniform committee and extensive consultation with the whole school community. Communication to families through our school newsletters, Sentral notifications and P&C meetings have been integral to keeping families informed of this process. This policy has been developed in consultation with the local school community. It is the responsibility of the principal to provide parents and carers with the school's uniform policy statement and uniform requirements.

The school uniform policy considers the diverse nature of the student population and does not disadvantage any students based on economic, religious, or cultural factors. It is, however, the responsibility of the total school community to encourage and support the wearing of school uniform.



It is expected that students wear school uniform during school hours, travelling to and from school and when engaged in school-based activities out of normal school hours, unless indicated otherwise by the principal/staff. The responsibility for managing the implementation of a school uniform should be shared by the school, parents, and students.

The wearing of make-up, jewellery, caps, and 'open' footwear (thongs, sandals etc) are not to be worn at school, unless otherwise requested by staff for special performances or special days.

School's Responsibilities

It is the school's responsibility to:

- have a have written agreements in place to set out the terms and conditions of a 'uniform shop' and 'supply arrangements'. Gwandalan Public School P&C have a written agreement with Lowes to supply our school uniforms;
- consider Health and Safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation when implementing a uniform policy;
- consult with the school community when implementing a uniform policy or implementing a change to the school uniform; and
- promote the wearing of the correct school uniform.

Parent's/Carer's Responsibilities

It is the parent's/carers responsibility to:

- ensure your child wears the correct school uniform, every day;
- encourage and support the wearing of full school uniform;
- clearly label all uniform items with your child's/children's name; and
- contact the school on 4976 1318 if you are experiencing difficulty in purchasing uniforms, as you may apply for assistance.

Student's Responsibilities

It is the student's responsibility to:

- wear the correct school uniform with pride, at all times;
- take their uniform items home at the end of each day, to avoid losing items; and
- check the lost property bins, located in the school's front office, for lost school uniform items.
- wear 'safe' jewellery that is limited to stub or sleeper earrings.
- wear their hair neat and tidy with blue or black coloured hair accessories.

Staff Responsibilities

Staff are responsible for:

- encouraging students to wear correct school uniform to school, every day;
- actively promote the wearing of correct school uniform to school, every day; and
- providing reminders relating to the wearing of uniform, particularly in relation to Health and Safety matters, e.g. 'unsafe' jewellery, incorrect footwear, incorrect headwear etc. At times, reminders may be provided via the school newsletter and Sentral notifications.



Health and Safety Guidelines

The school wide-brimmed hat (with school logo) is considered part of the Gwandalan Public School uniform in line with the Sun Smart Policy. The Gwandalan Public School Sun Safe Policy is for students to play in undercover areas if they do not have a hat.

Jewellery or other items that could cause an injury to themselves or other students are not to be worn. Stud earrings and sleepers may be worn in the ears, plus watches are the only acceptable jewellery items.

The wearing of make-up, nail polish and other fashion accessories are not part of our school uniform.

Responses to students who do not wear uniform.

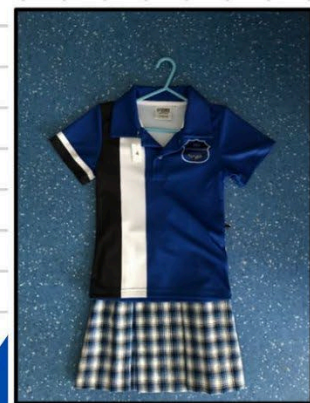
Responses to students who do not wear uniform will be fair and consistent and will not prevent students from continued participation in curriculum activities, except where safety issues are involved. These responses may involve:

- students initially providing a written explanation from a parent/caregiver as to the need to be out of uniform, and to contact the classroom teacher/school executive if the situation is of an ongoing nature;
- speaking to the student to encourage wearing of the correct school uniform;
- providing a verbal warning to the student;
- contacting the principal if the nature of the situation involves financial hardship;
- where a student fails to wear the agreed school uniform, or part thereof, on a consistent basis, Stage Supervisors initiating contact with parents/carers;
- inviting parents to the school to discuss the situation with the Principal or Stage Supervisor;
- negotiating an appropriate course of action with the student and parents; and
- students who are out of school uniform on a consistent basis changing into a spare uniform, provided by the office staff, at the beginning of the school day and changing out of the spare uniform at the conclusion of the day. These clothes are washed on a regular basis.

Please remember that if your family is experiencing difficulty purchasing uniforms, you may apply to the school for assistance.



SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS



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Our students wear:

- GPS polo & black shorts or skort or a tunic
- GPS hoodie or jacket (or plain black jumper)
- GPS bucket hat (or plain black bucket hat)
- Black shoes with plain black or white socks
- On SPORT days - joggers (preferably white)



Representative jumpers can be worn on FRIDAYS ONLY

These items are not school uniform & should not be worn to school:

