

Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this Student Dress Code, please contact a member of our College administration team.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College's School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College's compulsory school uniform items is available at Appendix A to this policy.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Walcom Ngarrrwa Secondary College students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- If required to represent the school and wear a Blazer and School Tie, students must wear a white button up shirt with collar.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun safety

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety.

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a school hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing sunscreen.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased directly from our supplier, Academy Uniforms.

Online at www.academyuniforms.com.au

In store at Academy Uniforms, Deer Park – 10/85 Mt Derrimut Road, Deer Park

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Student Services Leader to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Walcom Ngarrwa Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and COMPASS. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Walcom Ngarrwa Secondary College to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the Principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The Principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Walcom Ngarrwa Secondary College welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on our website and COMPASS platform.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website and for parents, carers and students via our COMPASS platform
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Walcom Ngarrwa Secondary College Sunsmart Policy
- Walcom Ngarrwa Secondary College Parent Complaint Policy

- Walcom Ngarrwa Secondary College Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2023
Consultation	Term 3, 2023
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2025

APPENDIX A: WALCOM NGARRWA SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS



All year round

The following items may be worn all year round to support the comfort of individual students:

Academic Uniform – to be worn every day except for days with PE or Sport
Plain black trousers, plain black shorts, College Dress or College skirt
College Polo Top – short or long sleeve
College Rugby Top, College Puffer Vest or College Puffer Jacket
Plain black socks, tights or stockings
College baseball cap (for outdoor use only)
All Black Leather School Shoes or T-Bars that fully enclose the toes to be worn all year round.
Black student backpack with College Logo

Sport Uniform – to be worn on days with PE or Sport
Plain black sports shorts, plain black skirt or plain black track pants
College Sport Polo Top
College Rugby Top, College Puffer Vest or College Puffer Jacket
White sports socks
Sports footwear that is fully enclosed
Black student backpack with College Logo

Representative Uniform – as advised by the College
College Blazer – to be loaned from the College
College Tie – to be loaned from the College
White button up shirt with collar – students to provide
All Black Leather School Shoes or T-Bars that fully enclose the toes

Headwear

A Black Cap with the school logo or the approved school beanie are both available for students to wear on a daily basis, whilst students are outdoors.

Bottle Green, Purple or Black head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Items listed as Plain Black

These items should be plain black in colour with no additional markings or visible branding.

Suitable School Shoes

The following footwear is recommended for daily and everyday use by students, being full leather and supporting the safety needs of students in all subjects.



Darcy Lace Up



T Bar Shoe



Harper Lace Up



Skate Sneaker

The above shoes can be purchased online at <https://stateschoolsrelief.org.au/product-category/shoes/>

Backpack

The school has an approved backpack that is available through Academy Uniforms. All students are expected to only use the approved backpack.

ACCESSORIES



8363160 Senior Backpack
Black



1100919 Sports Cap



Jacquard Beanie



Cotton Blend Tights
Black



Opaque Tights
Black