



Uniform Policy

PURPOSE/RATIONALE:

The Uniform Policy has been developed to define the standards expected of the clothing worn by all students of Yarra Hills Secondary College. The uniform provides for all seasons and for a variety of tastes. Wearing of uniform encourages a sense of belonging, provides ease of identification and projects our high standard to the local community.

This policy aims to cover the following items:

- Clothing
- School Shoes
- Jewellery and Make-up
- Facial piercings & hair colour
- Tattoos

BROAD GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS:

1. Wearing of the school uniform is compulsory for all students enrolled at the College.
2. The school uniform should be worn properly, be clean and neat.
3. The uniform clothing range and design will be open to review as the need arises.
4. Accommodations in regard to uniform will be made for students of religious beliefs (such as hijabs).
5. Students are expected to be in complete uniform when coming to school, whilst at school and when going home.
6. Students are expected to wear full uniform on school excursions. Students will not be allowed to attend if uniform requirements are not met.
7. Physical Education/Sports Uniform is compulsory for Physical Education/Sports activities unless otherwise specified.
8. Physical Education/Sports Uniform is not considered appropriate uniform for regular school classes.
9. Where a student has a Physical Education/Sports activity at the end of the school day, if they are in full, correct Physical Education/Sports Uniform they can wear this home from school. This does not apply to coming to school for Physical Education classes at the start of the day, at which time normal uniform should be worn.
10. Students attending a Sports activity for the day can come to, and depart from, school in full Sport Uniform.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

- Uniform items can be purchased from PSW in Croydon.
- Second-hand uniform sales are conducted from the 'Sustainable Uniform online shop'.
- Non-YHSC logoed items detailed in the policy can be purchased from PSW or any store (i.e. shoes, socks, tights and school bag)

COMPULSORY UNIFORM ITEMS:

The full list of Yarra Hills Secondary College's compulsory uniform items is available in Appendix A of this policy.

GUIDELINES FOR APPAREL:

All items must be official college uniform from PSW (except for shoes, socks, tights and school bag).

ACADEMIC UNIFORM REGULATIONS:**Tops:**

- Non-uniform jackets, jumpers and hoodies are not permitted.
- The school jacket is the only acceptable jacket to be worn over the top of uniform.
- Students are welcome to wear extra T-shirts underneath their polo shirt; however, they must not be seen either at the neckline or at the bottom of the shirt or sleeve.
- A school approved Year 12 jacket may be worn by Year 12 students only.

Bottoms:

- Pants/trouser cuffs must not touch the ground. Leggings, Jeans or Tracksuit pants are not part of the uniform and therefore not acceptable.
- Shorts are not to be turned up to create cuffs.
- The hemlines of shorts, dresses, and skirts are to be no shorter than mid-thigh.
- Students must wear items from the Academic uniform list and can only wear the Physical Education/Sport uniform items for Physical Education/Sport classes or events. Combining items from these two lists will be interpreted as being out of uniform.

GUIDELINES FOR SOCKS:

- Socks must be plain black, white or navy (no logos).

GUIDELINES FOR HATS AND SUN SAFETY:

- College logo school baseball cap, bucket hat or beanie are permitted to be worn at school.
- Hats are to be worn for outdoor activity only.
- Hats are not to be worn inside.

This Uniform Policy affirms the requirements of the Sun Protection Policy for protection from harsh sunlight. At Yarra Hills Secondary College, 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.

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

GUIDELINES FOR SCARVES:

- College logo scarves may be worn during winter months.

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL SHOES:

The style of footwear worn should complement the smartness of the school uniform. Shoes should conform to the following aspects:

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| • Be all black polishable | • Have no metal tips |
| • Be leather or leather look-a-like | • Have standard low heels |
| • Be lace up or T-bars | • Runner style shoes are not permitted |
| • Have an enclosed toe | |
| • Be cut to fit below the ankle | |

Boots and platform shoes will not be permitted.

Runners are permitted with the Physical Education/Sport uniform. Runners may be worn when indicated for excursions or school events. When directed by Yarra Hills College staff, runners must be changed for black leather (or leather alternative) shoes for classes and events.

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL BAG:

Students can use any school bag for taking their belongings to and from school.

We recommend that students use a sturdy, well-constructed bag that supports good posture when travelling to and from school.

- Must not contain any rude or offensive prints.

GUIDELINES FOR JEWELLERY AND MAKEUP:

Students wearing jewellery will be asked to consider its appropriateness for school. No more than two pairs of earrings may be worn in each ear and earrings must be of 5c piece size or smaller.

A watch with one small sentimental bracelet may be worn as well as one small sentimental necklace. Excessive jewellery will be removed and will impose a uniform breach. Make-up must also be minimal.

GUIDELINES FOR FACIAL PIERCINGS & HAIR COLOUR:

Facial piercings are permitted at Yarra Hills Secondary College. These must be a small, discrete clear plastic or metal piercing. Earlobe stretchers are not permitted. Students are permitted to have up to two facial piercings. During classes where the piercing poses a potential hazard (for example, but not limited to, sport, woodwork etc.) the student must remove or cover the piercing as directed by the teacher.

There are no restrictions on hair colour, or hair styles insofar as a hair style does not impact the learning, wellbeing or safety of the student or others within our college community.

GUIDELINES FOR TATTOOS:

In Victoria, it is illegal to tattoo a person under the age of 18. Students will ensure that, as far as is practicable, any tattoos they have are covered and not at all visible when at school or when on school activities. Students with tattoos that are readily visible and are, as deemed by the college principal, offensive or to have inappropriate content, will cover such tattoos with skin-coloured tape at school and at all school-related activities. Any appeals against this policy can be directed to the School Council President.

GUIDELINES FOR MANAGEMENT OF UNIFORM:

- When students are out of uniform for any legitimate reason, a note from a parent/guardian is required.
- Students who come to school out of uniform without a note from a parent/guardian will have their names recorded and further action will be taken. Year Level Coordinators will issue a consequences each time a student is out of uniform. This will include: warning, detentions (lunchtime then afterschool) and suspension. Parents will be notified at each occasion.
- Teachers will confiscate incorrect items of clothing, such as jackets and hoodies. These will be kept for a week by the Year Level Coordinator. Parents will be notified of this.

The following situations are deemed to be acceptable reasons for not wearing school uniform.

- School excursions where uniform is inappropriate for the activity
- Outdoor education activities
- Trade related activities where industry or OH&S issues dictate.
- Long term school excursions/camps
- A designated out-of-uniform day.

GUIDELINES FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION/SPORT UNIFORM:

It is a requirement that students are in full uniform for all Physical Education/Sport classes and Interschool sporting events.

It is a requirement that all students will wear the appropriate Physical Education/Sport Uniform as specified (in Appendix B) to all Physical Education/Sport classes and Interschool/Division Sporting events.

The Physical Education/Sport uniform:

- A designated out-of-uniform day.
- YHSC logo Phys. Ed & Sport top
- YHSC logo Navy Microstretch Unisex Shorts or Navy Girls Lined Microstretch Shorts or logo Navy Zip Cuff Trackpant
- Runners & Socks

Any clothing items other than those stipulated above are deemed to be “out of uniform”.

All students will be required to change into the above uniform for Physical Education/Sport classes.

Students unable to wear the required Physical Education & Sport Uniform or who are unable to participate as a result of illness or injury must provide a written explanation signed by their parent/guardian.

Students who fail to bring their uniform or an explanatory note will incur the following:

1st Offence - Warning from the class teacher

2nd Offence - Warning and consequence from the class teacher

3rd Offence - Notification to Parent/Guardian and a detention

Please Note: Any subsequent offences will incur a detention unless a prior arrangement has been made between the class teacher and the student's parents/guardian.

Exclusion from interschool sport may occur as a result of continued uniform offences.

At the end of the Physical Education lesson students are expected to change into normal uniform. When these lessons are at the end of the school day, students will be permitted to depart school in their full, correct, Physical Education/Sports uniform.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTIVE FOOTWEAR:

Yarra Hills Secondary College requires students to wear appropriate footwear for Physical Education/Sport classes. The style of the footwear is to be that of a cross training or running shoe that provides appropriate heel support and cushioning with a non-marking sole. Inappropriate footwear can detract from their own physical performance and from others learning opportunities. It may also mean greater risk of injury, both short and long term. See Appendix 2.

GUIDELINES FOR SPORTING CARNIVALS / INTERSCHOOL SPORT:

All students representing the College in either Interschool Round Robins or Division Sporting events are required to attend in their full Physical Education/Sport Uniform. ***Where a team uniform is required for these events the school will supply such, however students are to arrive to attend the event in the above uniform.***

Failure to bring the required uniform may prevent your participation in the event, including during Physical Education classes.

GUIDELINES FOR VALUABLES IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ SPORT CLASSES:

It is recommended that students do not bring valuables (eg. money/jewellery) to Physical Education/Sport classes/events. However, if such items are brought to class, they may be placed in the valuables boxes supplied by the class teacher and locked away for safe keeping until the lesson is finished.

Jewellery such as earrings, body piercings, necklaces and rings should also be removed as a safety precaution to avoid damage or injury during class activities. **Mobile Phones, laptops, iPads** must remain locked in students' lockers.

Please Note: Any valuable items left in the change rooms during class (that have not been placed in the class valuables box) are not the responsibility of the school.

GUIDELINE FOR CASUAL DRESS DAY:

While attending school or related events during casual dress day, students are expected to maintain the standards documented in the Yarra Hills Secondary College Uniform Policy relating to shoes, hair, jewellery, and make-up.

The following Items are not permitted:

- See-through or garments that expose the midriff, singlets
- Rude or offensive prints
- Mini-skirts, or mini-shorts
- Visible underwear items of clothing
- Open toed shoes

OUTCOMES:

If a student is deemed to be inappropriately dressed or refuses to adjust their clothing to abide with the policy, then the following actions could apply:

- Classroom teachers tell students to adjust their clothing to abide by the policy. If this is not possible or the student refuses, then the student is to be reported to a Year level Coordinator or a teacher in a leadership position.
- A phone call to parents/guardians to discuss new clothes being delivered to school.
- Sending the child home to be appropriately dressed.

If the above consequences are unable to be implemented, then other appropriate consequences will be applied.

EXEMPTION REQUESTS:

Individual exemption requests: Students and their parents/carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal or Assistant Principal for an exemption to the Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy if:

- i) an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic, or cultural beliefs or background.
- ii) the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the policy.
- iii) the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate sustained economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the policy. In this circumstance, the college will assist with providing the required uniform items.

DUTY OF CARE:

The College provides protective clothing where appropriate for Technology subjects, Science, Art and Physical Education/Sport classes.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Responsibility for operation of the Uniform Policy is to be shared equally between the student, parents, staff and Year Level Coordinators.

Students are responsible for wearing their school uniform correctly and communicating any difficulties to teachers for not meeting uniform requirements.

Parents are responsible for providing the uniform items of clothing and footwear, so that their child will be able to comply with College requirements. Communication of family difficulties or other concerns should be directed to the Student Wellbeing Coordinator, Year Level Coordinator, Home Group Teacher or Campus Principal.

Year Level Coordinators are responsible for issuing uniform passes and consequences for repeat offenders and may confiscate non-uniform items.

All staff will refer students who are out of uniform to the Year Level Coordinator via Compass and may confiscate non-uniform items. Parents will be contacted if continual uniform breaches occur.

Ratified by School Council August 2024

(Change to hair style & colour policy ratified August 2025)