



MRSSK Dress and Appearance Policy

Sun Protection

<https://mansfieldrudolfsteiner.policyconnect.com.au/module/223/page/9cbcaecc-046a-4cff-aade-e2c9579b4ecf.md>

Purpose:

At Mansfield Steiner School a Dress and Appearance Policy operates which allows students choice in what they wear to school. The intention is to promote the wearing of practical, inexpensive clothes that encourages care and responsibility for their clothing. This clothing policy incorporates community expectation and occupational health and safety guidance. We encourage the development of individual identity for students, cost-effectiveness for parents, and celebrate diversity in our society. We also acknowledge that our society has subjective expectations of appropriateness. Students are afforded their free choice of clothing under the expectation that if a member of society attributes them to attending Mansfield Steiner School, then the school is held in high regard.

Early Childhood and Primary

In Early Childhood and Primary school, students are to wear clothing that is free from prints and brands. We believe that this allows students to enjoy school with freedom from marketing and branding that our children are so often the target of. Our clothing should simply fulfill its purpose by offering protection from the elements and allowing play and involvement in all school activities.

Primary students are expected to wear:

- Brand and print-free clothing.
Labels that can be covered by the palm of a hand are ok – eg small logo on the left chest. Also, a pattern within the print of the fabric is allowed.
- SunSmart in warm months and layers in cold months.
Tops must cover shoulders. Hats in Terms 1 and 4 are compulsory.
- Shoes must enclose toes.

Secondary

In Secondary we acknowledge that students utilise clothing as a means of expressing and developing their sense of self and identity. While we celebrate diversity and individuality, clothing should still ensure involvement, safety, and comfort in all school environments and classrooms. Clothing should reflect the workplace nature of the school.

Secondary students are expected to wear:

- Brand and print-free clothing.



Labels that can be covered by the palm of a hand are ok – eg small logo on left chest. Also, a pattern within the print of the fabric is allowed. No drug or alcohol references.

- SunSmart clothing. *No singlets - tops must cover shoulders. Covered midriiffs. Shorts to be mid-thigh in length. T-shirts with a collar are recommended. Hats in Terms 1 and 4 are compulsory.*
- Footwear must enclose toes. *This is a safety requirement in the Science Laboratory, Art rooms, and other areas of the school.*
- Clothing that is in good repair, clean and hygienic.
- Clothing that enables movement in activities. *This includes free movement in PE, drama, and on camps.*
- Jewellery must be consistent with health and safety guidelines and will be asked to be removed for any activity if deemed unsafe.

Implementation Guidelines

Note: All staff are required to enforce Hat wearing in Term 1 and 4. Term 2 and 3 are optional and weather dependent.

Where the student dress and appearance policy is not followed, one or more of the following consequences will be applied:

- Caution by a staff member and agreement by the student to comply with the dress and appearance policy. Eg. Turn t-shirt inside out. Removal of jewellery. Etc
- Restorative conversation
- Guardian conversation with student and/or parents
- MRSSK leadership team intervention as appropriate

Policy Revised – Glenn Hood June 2023. Sent to GC for review June 2023.

The next review date post-GC approval is June 2025.