

REVESBY SOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOL



UNIFORM POLICY



Objectives - Policy statement

Revesby South PS school uniform consists of a range of clothing, including footwear and headwear. It identifies students as belonging to this school. The school expects students to wear the uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities out of school hours.

Careful selection of a school uniform can contribute to the health and safety of students when engaged in school activities. The school uniform reflects school community standards and expectations. It has been developed in consultation with and agreed upon by the school community, and as a result, the whole school community has a role to play in encouraging the meeting of these standards.

Decisions about school uniforms are consistent with work health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation. Aspects of the uniform related to safety, eg. safe footwear, eye protection and hats, will need to be enforced as appropriate.

The school's uniform policy is the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, including the Parents and Citizens' Association. The consultation was conducted in a manner appropriate to the school and based on participatory decision-making principles. The school's uniform policy and uniform requirements has been formally endorsed by the school community.

The school's uniform policy takes into account the diverse nature of the student population in the school and aims to not disadvantage any student. Economic, personal, social and cultural factors affecting students and their families are considered when deciding on items of uniform. Other considerations, such as body shape or religious requirements are taken into account in making a final decision on the design and fabric of school uniforms.

The school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements will be reviewed every five years and amended where necessary. Groups within the school community may also seek a review when circumstances change significantly or issues arise.

Implementing school uniform requirements

Positive reinforcement and encouraging responsible behaviour are the preferred approaches to ensuring students wear the school uniform.

Everyone has a role in setting the standards for the school. Teachers and other school staff model appropriate standards for students. They will dress in a professional manner at all times.

Suspension or expulsion solely for non-compliance with uniform requirements will not occur. Student enrolment cannot be contingent upon adherence to school uniform policy.

Students will not be disadvantaged where required uniform items are not available because of circumstances beyond their control.

Conscientious objections by parents to the wearing of school uniform should be respected. Response to students who do not wear uniform must be appropriate. They should be clarified, agreed upon by the school community and documented. Response must be fair and consistent.

They must not prevent students from continued participation in essential curriculum activities except where exclusion is necessary for reasons of safety. In this situation, alternative educational activities must be provided.

Arrangements with clothing suppliers

Arrangements for the supply of uniforms with individual firms, where selected firms receive preference in the placement of orders or publicly, can only be entered into following public tendering.

Any change in school uniform has significance not only for students and their parents or carers but also for those agencies that supply school uniforms.

Any school which, after a process of consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, proposes a change in school uniform should announce its decision early in the school year preceding the change. All parents or carers and, as far as is practicable, all retailers concerned must be notified. Some schools may need to allow up to three years for change, to enable school uniform shops and others with significant stocks of the uniform to be replaced to prepare for the change.

Context

The Department of Education supports the wearing of school uniforms by students and the upholding of high standards of dress by students and staff. The department recognises that NSW has a long history of school uniforms or dress codes being decided by the local school community.

Legislation

Under the [NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#) the department must do everything reasonably practicable to ensure that students are not exposed to risks to their health or safety while they are on departmental premises.

Under the [NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977](#) it is unlawful for an education authority to discriminate on grounds of race, ethno-religion, sex, pregnancy, disability, age, homosexuality, transgender status, responsibility as a carer or marital status.

Responsibilities and delegations

It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that the school uniform policy is developed and reviewed collaboratively with the school community.

When a school community agrees on a school uniform, the principal oversees the shared responsibility for ensuring that students are encouraged to wear school uniforms that meet agreed community standards and adhere to legislative requirements.

Principals must provide parents or carers with the school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements.

Principals who operate within the policy framework will be supported by the department in the implementation of this policy.