

SOUTHPORT STATE SCHOOL

STUDENT DRESS CODE

Introduction

Southport State School is a uniform school. The school community has decided upon the uniform that is to be worn by all students at all times including any excursions or representative team events. All uniform items except shoes and track pants are available from the school's uniform shop.

The Southport State School Student Dress Code has been developed in consultation with parents and caregivers, school staff, students and the Parents' and Citizens' Association.

A formal endorsement by the P and C Association is attached to this policy.

The Southport State School **community** endorses, supports and expects students to be in uniform.

A uniform is an important part of the development of our school as we agree it presents the first (and often lasting) impression people form about our school and its students. The Southport State School Student Dress Code assists our school community by:

- Allowing for the easy identification of our students on school premises and during regional sporting and cultural events and excursions, critical incidents, safety drills or evacuations
- Alerting our school staff to people who may not belong on our school grounds
- Reducing the pressure of buying name brands and following the latest trends and fads, which minimises any visible economic or social differences between students
- Promoting a sense of common purpose and belonging, consistency and unity in the daily activities of students
- Reflecting Southport State School's community expectations of student safety and is consistent with the Department of Education and Training's Occupational Health and Safety, Anti-discrimination Legislation and Sun Safe Strategy

Dress and personal appearance expectations

Students wearing items that do not comply with the requirements set out below will be asked to remove the offending item and to store it out of sight for the remainder of the school day. In the case of non-uniform jumpers worn during autumn and winter, students will be required to remove these items as the day warms up. The student will be expected to be in the correct uniform the following day. A refusal to comply will be dealt with in accordance with managing compliance set on following pages.

Dress

Southport State School requires all students to be in full school uniform when:

- Attending or representing the school
- Travelling to and from school and
- Engaging in school activities out of school hours

Southport State School requires students to wear items related to safety, such as safe footwear and eye protection, which may be necessary in order to participate in certain school activities.

Personal appearance

Southport State School requires all students to come to school with a clean and tidy appearance:

- Clothes are to be clean
- Make-up is not to be worn
- Nail polish is not permitted

Standard Uniform

Boys:

Navy shorts, school polo, plain navy short sleeved undershirt, white socks, black covered shoes (leather or leather look), school bucket hat.

Girls:

School dress OR navy skorts or shorts with school polo, plain navy short sleeved undershirt white socks, plain navy bike pants or tights under dress only, black covered shoes (leather or leather look), school bucket hat.

Hair:

- Hair is to be washed, combed/brushed
- Hair is to be neatly groomed and if longer than shirt collar length, tied back from the face with a hair band
- Hair accessories must be subtle in design (ribbon, scrunchie and headband without decorative additions)
- Hair is not to be dyed in unnatural colours or two-toned patterns
- A Mohawk, patterns, symbols, words or shapes shaved on the scalp are inappropriate for school

Jewellery:

The only items of jewellery allowed are:

- Studs or sleepers without dangling parts or beads
- A watch
- Appropriate school badges
- A religious or cultural symbol worn out of sight on a plain chain after written permission is gained from the principal

- Other piercings that are not ordinarily covered by the school uniform (i.e. facial piercings) must be covered by tape/band-aid or removed during the school day

Winter Uniform Options:

- School jumpers
- Navy track pants
- Girls' navy tights or bike pants (to be worn under navy skirt or dress)
- Plain navy long sleeved undershirt

Year 6 Senior Shirts:

- May be worn Monday and Wednesday only

School Sports Shirts:

- May be worn each Friday to showcase house spirit
- May be worn on Sports Day (Athletics) and Cross Country Day

FREE DRESS DAYS

From time to time, Free Dress Days will be organised by the Student Council. On these days the following dress rules will apply:

- All clothing worn will comply with SunSmart initiatives by covering the shoulders
- No offensive slogans or mottos to be printed on any clothing
- No midriff tops
- No short miniskirts or short shorts
- Shoes must be enclosed, no high heels or thongs allowed
- School bucket hats must be worn when outdoors in the sun

UNIFORM EXEMPTIONS:

Requests for exemption

The exceptional circumstances of some students or families, including religious, cultural or disability will be taken into consideration and may require parent/s to request an exemption through the principal following a discussion with a member of administration.

Financial hardship

Personal financial circumstances may make purchasing school uniform items seem unrealistic for some families. Parents should note that Southport State School can provide relevant assistance to families for uniform items where financial stress is genuine:

- Second Hand uniforms are available from a bank of clothing which may be borrowed by students until uniforms are able to be purchased
- If these arrangements are unsatisfactory, parents may apply for a flexible payment plan with the school's Business Manager

Application Process

An application for individual circumstances for exemption should be made to the school principal. The school principal in considering the application may require additional information from an applicant to satisfy themselves that the application has a genuine basis (as opposed to a mere preference or dislike). The school principal's decision is final.

Consequences of approval

The exemption allows the student to attend school without receiving a disciplinary consequence applied for the uniform non-compliance, but these students may however be prevented from attending, or participating in, any school activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school (this can include school excursions, extra-curricular activities where the student is associated with the school) and / or be prevented from attending, or participating in, any school activity for which the student would have been representing the school.

Managing non-compliance

The following non-compliance process will be undertaken during the student's free time, not during lessons which are part of the essential educational program of the school.

Where a student is inappropriately dressed and does not hold an exemption or a note from a parent (This note from the parent is for one off or emergency and unusual occasions, if a longer period of time is required then exemption process as outlined in this policy should be followed):

- A uniform breach letter can be sent home
- The student will be offered a choice of correct uniform items from the bank of clothing / uniforms held at the school for the day (to be returned to the school at the end of the school day)
- If students refuse to accept the offer of a correct uniform item, the student will be sent to the office by the staff member where either the class teacher, Deputy Principal, principal, or office staff will ring the student's home to explain the uniform policy requirements to parents, request parental cooperation in requiring their child to accept the uniform items or where possible request that the required uniform items be brought to school for the student to change into.
- If, after this, the student is non-compliant, they will be dealt with in accordance with the sanctions for non-compliance
- In circumstances where the principal is satisfied that the student's non-compliance is beyond the student's control, disciplinary sanctions may not be applied

Sanctions for non-compliance

Students who are non-compliant, despite the managing non-compliance process above, will be subject to the following consequences for each instance of non-compliance, namely:

- Reflection Room and/or
- Preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any activity for which the student would have been representing the school
- Preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any school activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school (this can include school excursions, extra-curricular activities)

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open each Monday and Thursday from 8.00am - 11.00 am. EFTPOS and Credit card facilities are available. Parents can order any time using the QKR App.

Dress Code Review

Southport State School's Student Dress Code is reviewed annually and submitted to the Parents' and Citizens' Association for support and endorsement.

Review Date

The parent community is regularly consulted on school uniform matters through the Parents' and Citizens' Association.

Parents and Citizens Association meetings are held twice a term beginning at 3.15pm on Thursdays. Precise dates will be communicated in our newsletter. The P & C representative can be contacted by email at pandc@southportss.eq.edu.au for further information on how you can raise issues in relation to Southport State School's Student Dress Code.

Parents and Citizens Association Endorsement

The P & C of Southport State School resolves that it supports the Southport State School Dress Code Policy because it believes that a student dress code at Southport State School promotes the objectives of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006.

President: 

Date: 27/05/2025

Southport State Schools' Student Dress Code as at January 2025