



Gowrie State School

Dress Code

Taking pride in ourselves - Taking pride in our school

In accordance with section 360 of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* (Qld), a principal may develop a student dress code that will apply when students are attending, or representing, the school. When developing a dress code, the principal must ensure it is compliant with guidelines, as described in this procedure.

Our dress code and uniform policy clearly explains and documents standards of acceptable dress in relation to clothing worn by students, including headwear, footwear, and other aspects of personal presentation.

Gowrie State School community understands and shares in the belief that the tone of the school is enhanced considerably when all students wear the uniform. It engenders school spirit and gives individuals a feeling of identity and belonging in our school community.

All students are required to wear the full school uniform each day. We seek the co-operation of all parents in ensuring that their children always wear the school uniform and in a manner which reflects pride in the school and in one's own appearance.

Our school dress code and uniform policy:

- was developed in consultation with the school community and endorsed by our Parents and Citizens (P&C) Association. Our policy includes amendments that align with the recently revised DOE policy.
- is consistent with health and safety considerations
- complies with anti-discrimination legislation
- considers affordability, functionality and durability of uniform items
- provides uniform options, including shorts and pants, in all uniform categories for all students, regardless of gender.

Why do students wear a uniform?

- establishes a culture of school pride, a positive learning environment and high expectations
- promotes a positive image within the community with an identifiable uniform that is smart, tidy and worn appropriately
- addresses health and safety policies by ensuring students are wearing appropriate footwear and sun-safe clothing

- school uniforms promote social equality among students because they diminish socioeconomic differences by reducing peer pressure associated with expensive 'brand' clothing
- improves student safety by enabling staff to identify people within the school grounds who are not associated with the school.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Principals

- Consult with students, school staff, parents and the Parents and Citizens' (P&C) Association when developing and reviewing the school's dress code.
- Approve the dress code and/or amendments to the dress code.
- Ensure the dress code:
 - states its purpose and acceptable standards of dress and student personal presentation
 - complies with relevant legislation and departmental policies
 - is inclusive of students from diverse backgrounds and circumstances
 - outlines the rights and responsibilities of parents, students and the school
 - is flexible and allows the right of choice (including choice of shorts and pants) for all students by clothing type
 - is practical and provides all students with equal access to the full range of school activities
 - is responsive to individual abilities and needs (e.g. through provision for modifications or exemptions under certain circumstances)
 - includes criteria and processes for granting and managing exemptions
 - considers affordability of uniform items and includes strategies to reduce costs and/or support families in financial need
 - includes strategies to positively reinforce compliance
 - includes strategies to manage non-compliance that are not contrary to student wellbeing or academic outcomes
 - includes strategies for resolution of dress code issues.
- Comply with the Purchasing and procurement procedure when engaging a school uniform supplier.
- Ensure that the school possesses the intellectual property rights to deal with the school logo.

- Licence the school logo to manufacturers to reproduce the school logo for manufacturing school uniforms and maintain all licences on record.
- Communicate dress code requirements to the school community, ensuring it is published on the school's website and readily available on request.
- Ensure the dress code is communicated clearly to students and parents prior to enrolment, as part of the enrolment agreement, providing a basis for parent agreement.
- Enforce the dress code fairly and equitably.
- Determine, document and inform parents and students of reasons for dress code exemption decisions.
- Monitor issues and review the dress code periodically.

P&C

- Support and engage in consultation led by the principal, giving advice and recommendations regarding the school's dress code.
- Direct parents to the principal to discuss any individual issues regarding the dress code.
- Support the school to resolve issues regarding the school's dress code.

Parents

- Commit to supporting the dress code as part of the enrolment agreement.
- Support the student to adhere to the dress code.
- Request short or long-term modifications or exemptions to the dress code in writing, providing reasons for request.
- Work with the school to resolve issues regarding student compliance with the school's dress code.
- Engage in consultation processes about the dress code.

RECOGNITION AND REINFORCEMENT

Following the school uniform code forms part of our school moto 'Dignity in Work and Play' and is further advocated in our three school expectations 'Be Safe - Be Respectful - Be a Learner'.

Furthermore, our school community shares an investment in the Gowrie 5R's : Resilience, Rigour, Respect, Responsibility and Relationships which is at the heart of our Student Wellbeing Program.

Our School Dress Code is supported in our school's Positive Behaviour For Learning approach.

Recognition for following the code may include:

- positive comments

- Gowrie Gotchas
- Class Awards

Available support to ensure compliance

Gowrie State School will provide support through providing a:

- uniform clothing pool of second hand uniform items for donation to families;
- recommendation of pursuing support through the Gowrie community communication network via the P&C.

NONCOMPLIANCE WITH STUDENT DRESS CODE AND UNIFORM POLICY

Parents are encouraged to contact the school to seek support for their child to follow the student dress and uniform code when needed.

- Parents seeking short- or long-term exemptions are to submit a written request stating the reason for the exemption and the length of time required.
- Parents will be contacted to discuss the exemption and outcomes of request. The 'resolving student dress code issues' checklist will be consulted as a decision-making guide.

Response to noncompliance may include:

- Removal of inappropriate items of jewellery or accessories.
- Removal of inappropriate nail polish and make up.
- Preventing the student from attending, or participating in, any non-essential 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's principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school.

Noncompliance Procedure:

Students unable to wear an item of the correct uniform must comply with the following procedures:

- Report to their teacher who will consult the principal.
- Provide a note from home explaining the uniform breach, requesting an exemption for the period for which this will exist.
- Where possible, exchange the incorrect uniform item for the correct uniform item. The student's own item of clothing will be held until the exchanged article is returned at the end of the school day.

- The student may also be issued with one of the sanctions as outlined above in the *Education (General Provisions) Section 362*.

Criteria for Considering Exemption Requests:

The following will be considered in determining the outcome of requests:

- Reason for exemption.
- Length of time requested for exemption.
- Other factors identified by parents/carers.
- Anti-discrimination and Human Rights legislation.

REVIEWING THE STUDENT DRESS CODE AND POLICY

The policy will be reviewed intermittently to respond to changes in legislation and EGP Act or when needed as identified by the principal and P&C Association.

RELEVANT AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES

Inclusive Education Statement

Respecting and valuing diversity

All students and families feel, and are, welcome, respected, included and safe at our state schools. We embrace, and make visible, diversity as a strength and support respectful relationships within the school community and between students. We address the different barriers experienced by students and develop strategies and plans to support inclusive education for our diverse student population.

Legislation

- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* (Qld) Chapter 2, Part 1-3, Part 4 Division 3-4, Part 4 Division 10, Part 5
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cwlth) Part 1, Part 2 Division 2, Part 2 Division 5
- *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* (Qld) Chapter 12, Part 9 ss.360-363
- *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cwlth) Part II s.9
- *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* (Cwlth) Part I, Part II Division 2, Part II Division 4
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (Qld)

Related policies

- Inclusive education
- Diversity in Queensland schools – Information for principals

“A school uniform option should be available that can be worn by students of any gender.”

Related procedures

- Customer complaints management
- Managing risks in school curriculum activities
- Purchasing and procurement
- Safe, supportive and disciplined school environment

Guidelines

- Developing a sun safety strategy

Supporting information

- Checklist – developing, reviewing and implementing a student dress code
- Checklist – resolving student dress code issues
- Enrolment agreement

GOWRIE STATE SCHOOL DRESS CODE AND UNIFORM DESCRIPTION

Boys Uniform

- School polo shirt.
- Plain bottle green shorts (no logos)

Please note that due to issues in being able to source the formal uniform, the green/gold check shirt is being phased out. They are still able to be worn at school and will be acceptable wear even after a replacement is determined.



Girls Uniform

- School polo shirt or green/gold check blouse
- School green/gold check dress
- Bottle green culottes, skort, shorts or skirt of modest length.
- Bottle green bike pants or similar eg. Sports knickers, are to be worn under skirt or dress. Bike pants or similar are not be worn as a short.



Please note that due to issues in being able to source the formal uniform, the green/gold check shirt and dress is being phased out. They are still able to be worn at school and will be acceptable wear even after a replacement is determined.

The school and P&C are currently working with our uniform provider to source a suitable knit dress (similar material to school shirt). This is a long process, and the new dress design it expected to be available from Semester Two, 2026.

Winter Option –

Girls and Boys

- Plain bottle green jumper or jacket (No logos or colourful designs)
- Plain bottle green track pants (Girls may wear bottle green tights under their skirt or skort)
- Plain bottle green scarf



Shoes and Socks

Girls and Boys

- Black or dark coloured fully enclosed lace up or Velcro school shoes
- Plain, dark shoelaces
- Plain white full ankle/sport socks



Hats

Broad brimmed hats are compulsory and in line with our Sunsafe Policy. Students must wear a hat when outdoors.

- Bottle green school hat with school logo.
- The P&C will provide each incoming Prep student with a reversible school hat. The reverse side matches the school sporting houses. It will be either plain green (Eskdale) or yellow (Ivory).



Hair

- Hair that is longer than shoulder length should be worn up for safety and comfort.
- Hair must be pulled away from face.
- Hair accessories and head coverings (for religious or cultural reasons should be in school colours (green and gold)).
- Hair must be a natural colour.
- Extreme hair style are non-acceptable.

Jewellery

No jewellery should be worn at school. Jewellery expectations are:

- small sleepers or stud earring that are close to and no bigger than the earlobe.
- Medical alert jewellery
- Cultural or faith based jewellery with prior consent.
- A watch, provided that it **cannot** - connect to the internet, used to receive and send SMS or phone calls, or capture images.

Unapproved items of jewellery will be required to be removed for safety reasons under Workplace Health and Safety.

School Leaders

Additional and relevant feedback was gained through community consultation guided by a Working Group tasked with reviewing the school dress code. The outcomes are incorporated into this Dress Code and should be included within the review cycle as determined by the school community and relevant school policy and processes.

The Gowrie State School community supports:

- Year 6 students should be recognisable as the most senior students within the school by the option of wearing a senior's shirt.
- A sports house shirt is preferable to be worn at sporting events, to be a plain coloured polo shirt in the student's house colours. If you are uncertain about your child/ren's Sport House please contact the school office on 46986888.
- Students Leaders are encouraged to wear a formal uniform on special occasions such as when leading parade or representing the school. The previous green and gold check formal shirts and dress are being phased out. The P&C have decided that only the School Leaders have real need to access the formal uniform. To that end, a monogrammed formal white shirt with a green skirt / skorts for girls, and green shorts for boys is now the formal uniform. During winter, girls are welcome to wear green tights, and the boys are welcome to wear long trousers.

The school will work with incoming leaders to source the required uniform.

Blouse



Shirt



Free Dress Day

Students must wear clothes that are modest and appropriate to our school context and follow sun safety guidelines e.g. shirts with sleeves.

It is not appropriate for students to wear items with:

- Logos endorsing alcohol, cigarettes or inappropriate items;
- inappropriate slogans, images or words;
- shoe string straps/ tops with midriff displayed;
- short skirts or shorts (must be mid-thigh or longer);

Students breaching 'free dress' policy will be required to replace the inappropriate item of clothing from the school uniform clothing pool or parents contacted to provide an appropriate replacement.

Swim Shirts

Swim shirts (rash vests) must be worn by Prep-Year 6 students during all water based activities including swimming lessons. Colour is optional, but you may wish to consider school colours when purchasing a new swim shirt.

Representative Sports Shirts



School sporting shirts are available for hire/loan when sporting teams attend cluster sports days, and other gala days.

These will be distributed through the school for wearing on the day. They may be worn with the bottle green shorts or skorts.

Music Shirts

The school has a strong music program with students being able to participate in the school choir or the Instrumental Music Program. Both groups of music students represent the school at various events during the school year, and also at cluster events and competitions.

A music shirt has been provided by the P&C for hire/loan. These will be distributed through the school for wearing on the day, as needed. They may be worn with the bottle green shorts or skort/skirts.

