Tallangatta Secondary College **Policy Manual**	**STUDENT DRESS CODE**	**Council Meeting:** Sept 2025
Information: 0260715000	**Related Policies:** SunSmart Policy Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy Complaint Policy	**Reviewed:** Every four years
Manager: Assistant Principal		

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Tallangatta Secondary College's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Tallangatta Secondary College's School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

All students are required to dress in a manner which brings credit to themselves and to the school. It is expected that Uniform will be:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden
- not be inappropriately brief

TSC respect the individuality of their students and appreciate their efforts to reflect the values of the school through their personal expression. The uniform policy supports individual expression provided that jewellery, make up and accessories are suitable for school and compliant with OH&S requirements of individual subjects. Individual cases can be discussed and negotiated as needed.

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

IMPLEMENTATION

Tallangatta Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this dress code where possible.

The College recognises there are times when uniform is wet or damaged. While it is appreciated that students bring notes for such times, it is expected that students not wearing full uniform report to their Engagement Leader or Assistant Principal before the commencement of the school day, where they will be required to change into uniform provided by the school.

If medical reasons temporarily prevent the wearing of an item of the uniform, parents should provide the Engagement Leader or Assistant Principal with a note specifying the time of requested exemption from the Student Dress Code.

Measures taken by Tallangatta Secondary College to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may impact students differently.

Students and their parents or carers may apply in writing to the principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of the code:
    - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements
    - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
    - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate financial hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carer
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

SUN SAFETY

As a SunSmart College we require all students to wear their school hat outside during terms 1 and 4 and a rashie top during outdoor swimming. Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION and SPORT UNIFORM

Students must have a change of uniform for sport and P.E. practical classes. A sport T shirt (short and long sleeve) with TSC logo and navy-blue sport shorts / tracksuit pants is required for all P.E. classes and representative school sport.
Physical Education attire is not to be worn during other classes. The school hat must be worn for all PE classes / Sport events during Term 1 and 4.

VET Sport and Recreation students have an approved school sport shirt.

SWIMWEAR

Rash vests or t-shirts are required during water sport activities and classes and while students are waiting to compete in outdoor swimming competitions.

Rash vests or t-shirts are recommended, but not mandatory, during race conditions such as races during the swimming carnival.

Swimwear is to be modest and, during race conditions, comply with Swimming Australia's Inclusive Swimwear policy.

Rashies to be worn during marshalling and taken off when moving to the edge of the pool ready to race.

PRACTICAL CLASSES

Students in all practical classes must wear fully enclosed footwear, appropriate clothing and jewellery due to OH&S regulations. Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair. These classes include Physical Education, Art & Technology and Science departments. Class teachers will clearly explain what is appropriate for each subject.

CASUAL WEAR DAYS

Casual clothes days are conducted by the Student Council as a fund-raising activity. Participating students are expected to support this fund-raising in return for the privilege of coming out of uniform. At least 7 days before casual clothes days, parents will be notified in the weekly College Newsletter. Casual wear on such days should be in accordance with College expectations and bring credit to the school. Students must wear appropriate clothing and shoes that do not contravene the values, health and safety expectations of the school.

YEAR 12 JUMPER

Year 12 students are permitted to wear an approved Year 12 school jumper as part of the school uniform. Designs are reviewed and approved annually by the Principal to ensure consistency with school uniform standards.

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL LAYERS - for added warmth

- Blue College beanie with TSC logo during term 2 and 3
- Blue College scarf with TSC logo during term 2 and 3
- Soft Shell Winter Jacket with TSC logo
- Students may wear a long sleeved white collarless T shirt under their uniform long sleeve shirt (not short sleeve).

NOT PERMITTED

- School hats / beanies inside
- Caps
- Tracksuit pants are not deemed part of the everyday school uniform.
- Hooded jumpers cannot be worn under school uniform.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items are available for purchase through the school's uniform shop. Permitted non-branded uniform items (school shorts and pants, and Sport shorts and tracksuits), may also be purchased from department stores. Second-hand uniform items are also available from the school at no cost or gold coin donation.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the Help with school costs and fees page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund, you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through State Schools' Relief. Please contact the College to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Tallangatta Secondary College welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Complaint Policy.*

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- available publicly on our school's website
- included in transition and enrolment packs
- discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- hard copy available from school administration upon request.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- information in newsletters
- Consultation with the Student Council
- focus groups

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code

Department of Education and Training Student Engagement policies and guidelines.

UNIFORM DETAILS

BOYS' UNIFORM

- Tailored navy-blue trousers /pants or shorts.
- Short and long sleeve shirt with T.S.C. logo
- Windcheater with T.S.C logo
- Black lace up shoes which can be a sneaker
- White socks – no lettering or logo
- School hat (bucket and wide brim)

GIRLS' UNIFORM

- Skirt in a blue based tartan
- Tailored navy pants or shorts.
- Short and long sleeve shirt with T.S.C. logo
- Windcheater with T.S.C logo
- White socks (no lettering or logo) or blue tights / stockings
- Black solid / enclosed shoes which can have a buckle– socks must be worn
- Summer school dress
- School hat (bucket and wide brim)