

# IRRAWANG PUBLIC SCHOOL School Uniform



Last Review: Term 1, 2024 Next Review: Term 1, 2025 Principal: Mrs Stacy Mathieson

# 1. Objectives - Policy Statement

1.1 The department requires that schools set local school uniform requirements.
1.2 The department supports the wearing of school uniform which promotes a sense of belonging for students and creates a positive identity for the school community. School uniforms also contribute to the personal safety of students by allowing easier recognition of students inside the school and in the community.

**1.3** Irrawang Public School expects students to wear the specified local school uniform, as outlined below, during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in selected school activities that are in or out of school hours.

**1.4** All students should have the opportunity to access the full range of school activities, including physical activities while wearing a school uniform, and girls must have the option to wear shorts and pants.

**1.5** School uniform requirements should take into account the diverse nature of the student population in the school and not disadvantage any student.

**1.6** Each school's uniform policy must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, including the Parents and Citizens' Association, local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group and School Council where relevant.

**1.7** A school's response to a student not wearing uniform should be appropriate, fair and consistent, and a student cannot be suspended or expelled for not wearing school uniform. Schools should positively encourage the wearing of a school uniform. Principals may consider making exemptions for not wearing a uniform, if considered appropriate after discussions with parents or carers.

**1.8** Decisions about school uniforms should be consistent with work health and safety, antidiscrimination and equal opportunity legislation. Aspects of the uniform related to health and safety, eg. safe footwear, eye protection and hats, will need to be enforced as appropriate. Students should be encouraged to wear sun-safe hats for outside activities whenever possible as part of Irrawang Public School's school uniform requirements.

**1.9** Irrawang Public School's uniform comprises items that are affordable, comfortable, made from easy-care fabrics, appropriate for activity and suitable for all body shapes.

**1.10** Supply of Irrawang Public School's Uniform is currently available for private purchase through Lowes - Raymond Terrace (Marketplace). School community members are not prohibited from purchasing school uniforms, including the sports uniform, of the appropriate colour from other retailers. Irrawang Public School's school hats may be purchased from the front office. The Irrawang Public School's logo can be screen printed onto sport shirts through accessing local contacts from the Front Office.

#### Additional accessories;

Students are permitted to wear medical bracelets on their wrists or medical alert badges on their school shirts.

Students may wear small sleepers in their ears. Due to safety reasons, any other piercings need to be removed, preferably, or completely covered to ensure there is no risk to the student or others by being caught on objects.

Students may wear school coloured hair accessories (scrunchies, hair ties, ribbons, clips). All other elaborate accessories will be asked to be removed.

Students may wear a watch. If they are smart watches, parents must disable the phone call application on the watch. Bangles, bracelets, rings and necklaces are discouraged and may be asked to be removed.

Please see the principal if you wish to discuss accessories further.

**1.11** Irrawang Public School can advise parents on how they can access financial support if they are unable to purchase uniform items. To assist families, facilities such as a clothing pool are available. There may be an opportunity for support through LOWES vouchers, as deemed by the principal.

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

Parents and carers will be given sufficient time to purchase items and up to three years to change more costly items. All suppliers and retailers will be notified and given sufficient time to change the school uniform if required. The school's uniform requirements, along with a brief statement about who was consulted, should be kept on file by the principal of each school.

### Irrawang Public School Uniform Examples

**NOTE:** Both Summer & Winter uniforms include black shoes. Sports uniforms include joggers.

### Summer Uniform

**Girls:** School shirt, blue shorts/ school shorts/skorts, white socks, black shoes **Boys:** School shirt, blue shorts/ school shorts, white socks, black shoes







**Girls:** School shirt, blue pants/school pants, blue jumper/school jacket, white socks, black shoes

**Boys:** School shirt, blue pants/school pants, blue jumper/school jacket, white socks, black shoes



#### Sports Uniform (Friday)

- Students wear a coloured shirt representing their school sporting house on their selected sports day.
- Screen printing of the school logo onto privately purchased sports shirts is available but not mandatory.
- House colours are as follows;

Morris – Royal Blue King – Red Paterson – Green Armstrong - Yellow



# 2. Audience and applicability

2.1 The associated School Uniform Policy applies to all NSW Government schools

## 3. Context

**3.1** Under the <u>NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011</u> 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 <u>NSW Anti-Discrimination Act 1977</u> 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.

**3.2** 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. For the staff dress code, see the <u>Code of Conduct Policy</u>.

# 4. Responsibilities and delegations

- 4.1 School principals and teachers:
  - Lead the development and review of local school uniform requirements.
  - Lead consultation during a review of school uniform requirements.
  - Oversee contract negotiations with school uniform suppliers.
  - Inform parents and carers of local school uniform requirements and carefully consider parent/carer concerns and requests for exemptions.

- Provide positive reinforcement and encouraging responsible behaviour are the preferred approaches to ensuring students wear the school uniform.
- Suspension or expulsion solely for non-compliance with uniform requirements is not to occur. Student enrolment cannot be contingent upon adherence to school uniform policy.

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

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.

#### 4.2 Parents and carers:

- Provide their child/children with a school uniform that meets the schools' uniform requirements and raise any concerns with the principal.
- 4.3 Students:
  - Wear a school uniform that meets the schools' uniform requirements.

### 5. Monitoring and review

**5.1** The Director, Student Engagement and Interagency Partnerships is responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy and reviewing its effectiveness, every three years.

## 6. Policy contact officer

6.1 Leader, Health and Wellbeing T: 9244 5321