



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Wandal School Uniform Policy

Approved: 1993 | Revised 2017

Policy Statement

The school uniform will be worn in a manner which positively reflects and promotes the values espoused by our school community. Students will wear the prescribed school uniform whilst at school or when representing the school within the wider community.

Description

PREAMBLE: St Joseph's wishes to foster a community where equality and dignity are upheld. An outward expression of this is the school uniform. This expresses our participation and pride in our school and in the wider school community.

RATIONALE: The importance of the school uniform at St Joseph's, Wandal is in the sense of identity, commitment and belonging it fosters in our students:

- to identify with our Catholic ethos.
- to live with self-discipline and responsibility.
- to demonstrate a sense of pride in our school community

VALUES: Equality, Justice, Respect, Unity in Faith

The need for belonging and community is at the core of human experience. We recognise that wearing the school uniform contributes in a meaningful way to the creation of a strong sense of identity, equality and unity in faith.

Implementation Issues

1. Enrolment at St Joseph's, Wandal necessitates a commitment by parents and students to adhere to the School Uniform and Presentation Guidelines as prescribed by the school.
2. Parents will be responsible for ensuring that the school uniform is worn in its entirety and is maintained in good repair.
3. The St Joseph's Wandal school uniform will:
 - Reflect the heritage of our school.
 - Be functional and comfortable, taking into consideration the climate and needs of the children.
 - Be readily available and cost effective.
 - Comply with the guidelines articulated by relevant authorities including factors of sun protection and gender equity.
4. Variations to the application of this policy may be made where cultural, religious or personal needs are provided to the principal for consideration and approval in consultation with the school board.
5. The school will accommodate individual situations where financial difficulty occurs preventing a student from wearing the prescribed school uniform.
6. A student's non-compliance in meeting the standards outlined in the School Uniform and Presentation Guidelines will be addressed by school personnel.
7. The school uniform will be reviewed upon receipt of a formal request to the Principal from a properly constituted and published Parents and Friends General Meeting.
 - A formal request to review the school uniform requires the approval of the school board.
 - The minimum time between uniform reviews will be ten years from the year of implementation or sooner if the fabric or clothing becomes unavailable. A uniform change could also be the result of significant Workplace, Health and Safety issues.
 - Following approval from the school board, a Uniform Review Committee will be formed comprising: Principal or nominee; one staff member; one board member; one member from the executive of the Parents and Friends Association and one parent appointed at a general Parents and Friends' Association Meeting. The students should also be consulted in a manner, and at a time, deemed appropriate.
 - In order for a change of uniform to occur a minimum of 80% of school families would need to indicate, by ballot, their desire for a change. All ballot papers require the respondent's name and signature. If this level of response is not achieved, the uniform review process will cease and not recommence for a period of twelve months.
 - The Uniform Review Committee will review all relevant issues relating to the uniform change. The committee will consult with the school community and present the proposed alternatives to the School Board, the school staff and the Parents and Friends Association separately for their approval. All three bodies must be in agreement with the proposed alternatives in order for it to go to ballot.
 - The alternatives will be publicised and displayed for a school term. A selection of students will wear the alternative uniforms as a trial.

- To effect the specific uniform changes proposed by the Uniform Review Committee, the school community will be surveyed. For the ballot to be valid, 80% of school families must respond. A uniform change will be implemented if the proposal receives the majority vote.
- The review process will be transparent with accurate minutes of all meetings maintained.
- Replacement fabric of a similar nature does not require a parental survey. Hats, shoes and socks of a similar nature may be implemented without a parental survey.
- The transition period will be no less than eighteen months. Following which the new uniform becomes mandatory.

Reflection Material

St Joseph's Wandal Mission Statement
St Joseph's Wandal Special Religious Character