



# Somerville Secondary College Student Dress Code Policy

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Somerville 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 Somerville 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:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Somerville Secondary College's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

College Council requires ALL Students in Years seven to twelve to wear correct school uniform at all times. Students are expected to arrive at school in uniform that is clean and in good order. Sanctions apply for non-compliance with uniform rules. This policy depends upon parent support and willingness to endure that their children are correctly dressed for school.

## SCOPE

College uniform rules also apply whilst travelling to and from school. Students who have Physical Education either first or last period may wear the College sports uniform to and from school on those days.

## UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Somerville Secondary College's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Somerville Secondary College students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.



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### Makeup

Only minimal, non-obvious make up is acceptable.

### Jewellery and Body Art

A minimum of jewellery is acceptable. Earrings may only be sleepers or stud earrings. Facial piercings must be clear keepers. Body art must be covered at all times.

### Hair

Hair should only be dyed in natural tones. No extreme styles will be permitted. Ribbons and headbands must be white, navy or gold.

### Hats

Students may wear plain navy baseball caps all year round and plain navy beanies can be worn in winter. Students are permitted to wear these whilst in the yard.

## PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be ordered and purchased directly from Beleza School Uniforms located 8/13 Eramosa Rd West, Somerville.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Principal/Assistant Principal to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

## IMPLEMENTATION

Somerville 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 policy where possible.

Measures taken by Somerville 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 recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

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

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic 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/carers
- 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. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

### OUT OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

Students are expected to be in the correct college uniform daily. An explanatory note signed by a parent/guardian must be brought to school, if, due to unforeseen circumstances they are out of uniform and the student will be issued with an Out of Uniform pass. On these rare occasions, only clothing as close as possible to the school uniform should be worn. Denim jeans are not to worn under any circumstance. Students not complying with the uniform requirements can expect to be withdrawn from class or sent home to change. Students and their families should ensure uniform is organised daily. Students out of uniform can expect to be challenged by any teacher or staff member in regards to complying with the college uniform requirements.

### CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Somerville 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 *Parent Complaint Policy*

### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Somerville Secondary College's Sunsmart Policy
- Somerville Secondary College's Parent Complaint Policy
- Somerville Secondary College's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

### REVIEW



# Somerville Secondary College Student Dress Code Policy

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council February 2021 and is scheduled for review in February 2022.

## APPENDIX A: SOMERVILLE SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

*Please see the download section of the college website for images of the uniform items and costs.*

### **Updated College Uniform**

*Please note that the college is implementing a renewed uniform, effective from the start of the 2021 school year. The change in College uniform applies to all Year 7 2021 students. Students enrolled prior to 2021 may wear old college uniform items or purchase the new items.*

### **General Uniform**

- Soft Shell Jacket
- Rugby Top
- Knitted Jumper (Year 7-9)
- Knitted Jumper (Year 10-12)

### **Girls Uniform**

- Short sleeve blouse with logo
- Long sleeve blouse with logo
- Summer dress
- Winter skirt (mid-calf length)
- Tailored shorts with logo
- Tailored pants with logo

### **Boys Uniform**

- Short sleeve shirt with logo
- Long sleeve shirt with logo
- Tailored shorts with logo
- Tailored pants with logo

### **Sports Uniform**

- College sports top
- Micro-fibre sport shorts with logo
- Tapered track pants with logo
- College leggings

### **Senior School Students**

Students in Years 10, 11 & 12 wear the Seniors polo shirt which is predominantly white with navy yoke. Students in Years 10 & 11 wear the Seniors jumper or rugby top. Year 12 students wear the Year 12 jacket.

### **Shoes**

Black, polish able lace up school shoes.

### **Scarves**

Scarves worn in the winter months must be white or navy.

### **Casual Dress Days**

Students may wear casual dress and contribute a gold coin donation for a charity or fundraising event. If no donation is made, full school uniform must be worn. Unacceptable items of clothing



## Somerville Secondary College **Student Dress Code Policy**

include thongs, open toed shoes, clothes with offensive words, emblems or symbols or clothes that can be perceived to be explicit or offensive.