

Belmont Christian College

Uniform & Dress Standards Policy

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CONTEXT

Belmont Christian College is committed to fostering a community that encourages and exhibits positive relationships, attitudes and behaviours that are based on biblical beliefs, practices and values. The College seeks to create a caring environment where Christian values inspire and affirm the highest standards of ethical conduct in relation to the care, support, and wellbeing of the students entrusted to it. The College seeks to nurture an environment that contributes to the spiritual, personal, emotional, social and physical development of each child.

The College Code of Conduct and statements pertaining to wearing the correct attire for all members of the community reflects respect; that each will act kindly and courteously, and with respect for others; that each will not force themselves or anything that they own physically, verbally or emotionally on others; that each will do as asked; and that each has the privilege, if done respectfully, to ask questions of another. This code can be summarised by the key words: Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Citizenship, Compassion, Gratitude.

PURPOSE

This policy and its associated Codes of Conduct outline to the College community the rights and responsibilities of members of the community in regard to conduct required by various frameworks that effect the overall wellbeing and safety of students. They also protect and enhance the College's unique culture anchored in biblical truth that informs ethical and professional decisions and actions. This is a culture of respect: respect for one another as people created in the image of God and care for the physical environment and individual property. The result of implementing this policy should be the disciplining of children and young people to "...grow up into Christ", to behave in ways that are Christ-like to others and themselves.

RELATED CODES & POLICIES

The policies and codes which are to be read in conjunction with these policies are:

- School uniform requirements must comply with relevant legislation, including the Anti-discrimination Act 1977 and the Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- WHS POL 01 Work, Health and Safety Policy
- BCC Sunsafe Policy
- COR POL 02 Code of Conduct

POLICY STATEMENT

The objectives of the policy are best fulfilled within the context of an active, relational community. We recognise the interdependent relationship of four aspects of our community: the child, the home, the teacher and the College. Partnership will be maintained and strengthened through all parties having a common belief and a commitment to supporting the other to maintain high standards of conduct and uniform.

Belmont Christian College students are expected to be well presented and to maintain high standards in the wearing of their uniform. The wearing of the College uniform is compulsory. Upon enrolment, parents/carers sign to indicate they will, among other things:

- *Provide ... the correct uniform approved by the College and to ensure that the child is always sent to school neatly and modestly dressed in the required uniform*
- *Accept and support all policies and procedures of the College and its authority and right to employ such discipline procedures as it deems wise and expedient, (including after school detentions and suspensions), in accordance with College policies*

BENEFITS OF A SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniforms are helpful in a number of ways in supporting the College's Vision and Mission. The College uniform characteristically:

- Unites us as a community and plays an important part in maintaining the tone of the College
- Fosters a sense of belonging, collaboration and school spirit, and promotes a culture of teamwork and identity
- Encourages students to dress modestly
- Is an outward sign of respect, self-respect, and helps develop self-regulation in a safe and nurturing environment
- Enables our students to visually represent our College, and allows them to benefit from a positive image of the College in the wider community
- Removes the pressure on students and parents to make decisions about what to wear to school
- Helps staff supervising students to identify them easily during out of school activities
- Addresses issues of equality, health and safety, and expense
- Details about the College uniform for Primary and Secondary students are available on the College website <https://bcc.nsw.edu.au/uniform/>

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Summer, Winter and Sports uniforms are prescribed and are required to be worn.
- A seasonal "change-over" period will apply. A "Summer to Winter" change-over will occur during the first two weeks of Term 2. A "Winter to Summer" change-over will occur in the last two weeks of Term 3. During change-over periods, either full Summer or full Winter uniforms may be worn but not a combination of both.
- The dress code applies during school hours, on excursions (unless exempted) and while travelling to and from school.
- The student dress standards will be published and kept updated in the Primary School A-Z Guide and the Secondary A-Z Guide. Policy alterations and clarifications will be announced in the College Newsletter when expedient.
- Parents/Carers seeking exemption from the policy due to extenuating circumstances such as ethnic/cultural background, student disability, health conditions or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.

UNIFORM SUMMARY - PRIMARY SCHOOL

Primary Uniform

SPORT	SUMMER	WINTER
<p>Hat - BCC navy hat or cap</p> <p>Socks - BCC ankle-length sport socks</p> <p>Shoes - Sports joggers</p> <p>Shirt - BCC polo shirt</p> <p>Shorts - BCC micro-fibre sports shorts</p> <p>Tracksuit - BCC navy tracksuit pants and BCC navy jersey-style jacket or BCC navy softshell jacket</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Boys</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve mid blue shirt</p> <p>Shorts - Poly/cotton navy shorts</p> <p>Socks - BCC grey (blue stripe) socks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Boys</p> <p>Shirt - BCC long-sleeve or short-sleeve mid-blue school shirt (with top button)</p> <p>Tie - BCC two tone blue stripe tie</p> <p>Trousers - Navy trousers</p> <p>Socks - BCC grey (blue stripe) socks</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Girls</p> <p>Dress - BCC summer tunic</p> <p>Socks - BCC white (blue stripe) socks</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Girls</p> <p>Dress - BCC navy winter tunic OR BCC navy, pin-stripe pants</p> <p>Shirt - BCC mid-blue long-sleeve shirt</p> <p>Bow - Navy corded ribbon bow</p> <p>Socks - BCC white (blue stripe) socks or navy opaque stockings.</p>
	<p>Jacket - BCC navy softshell jacket or navy V-neck fine knitted jumper</p> <p>Shoes - Black, leather, polishable lace-up or velcro school shoes</p> <p>Hat - BCC navy hat or cap</p>	

UNIFORM SUMMARY - SECONDARY SCHOOL

Secondary Uniform (Yrs 7-10)

SPORT	SUMMER	WINTER
<p>Hat - BCC navy hat or cap</p> <p>Socks - BCC short, ankle-length socks</p> <p>Shoes - Sports joggers</p> <p>Shirt - BCC polo shirt</p> <p>Shorts - BCC micro-fibre sports shorts</p> <p>Tracksuit - BCC navy tracksuit pants and BCC navy softshell jacket</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve, mid-blue shirt</p> <p>Shorts - Poly/cotton grey shorts</p> <p>Socks - BCC grey (blue stripe) socks</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve mid-blue school shirt (with top button)</p> <p>Tie - BCC two tone blue stripe tie</p> <p>Trousers - Grey trousers</p> <p>Socks - BCC short, grey (blue stripe) socks</p>
	<p>Girls</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve, mid-blue blouse</p> <p>Skirt - BCC grey and blue check, knee-length skirt OR BCC navy, pin-stripe pants</p> <p>Socks - BCC white (blue stripe) socks.</p>	<p>Girls</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve, mid-blue blouse</p> <p>Skirt - BCC grey and blue check, knee-length skirt OR BCC navy, pin-stripe pants</p> <p>Socks - BCC white (blue stripe) socks or navy, opaque stockings.</p>
	<p>Jacket - BCC navy softshell jacket or navy V-neck fine knitted jumper</p> <p>Shoes - Black, leather, polishable lace-up school shoes</p> <p>Hat - BCC navy hat or cap</p>	

Senior Secondary Uniform (Yrs 11-12)

SPORT	SUMMER	WINTER
<p>Hat - BCC navy hat or cap</p> <p>Socks - BCC short, ankle-length socks</p> <p>Shoes - Sports joggers</p> <p>Shirt - BCC polo shirt</p> <p>Shorts - BCC micro-fibre sports shorts</p> <p>Tracksuit - BCC navy tracksuit pants and BCC navy softshell jacket</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve, white shirt</p> <p>Shorts - Poly/cotton grey shorts</p> <p>Socks - BCC grey (blue stripe) socks</p>	<p>Boys</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve white school shirt (with top button)</p> <p>Tie - BCC navy tie</p> <p>Trousers - Grey trousers</p> <p>Socks - BCC short, grey (blue stripe) socks</p>
	<p>Girls</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve, white blouse</p> <p>Skirt - BCC grey and blue check, knee-length skirt OR BCC navy, pin-stripe pants</p> <p>Socks - BCC white (blue stripe) socks.</p>	<p>Girls</p> <p>Shirt - BCC short-sleeve, white blouse</p> <p>Skirt - BCC grey and blue check, knee-length skirt OR BCC navy, pin-stripe pants</p> <p>Socks - BCC white (blue stripe) socks or navy, opaque stockings.</p>
	<p>Blazer - BCC blazer should be worn with the formal winter uniform</p> <p>Navy V-neck fine knitted jumper (optional) can be worn under the blazer</p> <p>Shoes - Black, leather, polishable lace-up school shoes</p> <p>Hat - BCC navy hat or cap</p>	

SPECIAL NOTES

- All items of school uniform, including shoes, should be neat and in good condition.
- Navy gloves and navy scarves may be worn in winter.
- All clothing should be labelled with the owner's name.
- Secondary boys' and all Primary formal shirts must be tucked in. All-season shirts may be worn untucked with the Summer uniform, but they should be tucked in whenever a tie is worn with Winter uniform.
- Skirts/dresses are to be no shorter than 8-10 cm above knees.
- Bags must be the official College backpacks available from the Uniform Shop.
- For water activities, girls must wear a modest, one-piece swimming costume with a rash shirt and boys' swimming costumes should, likewise, be modest with a rash shirt. Rash shirts are not required for competitive swimming carnivals.
- Unless specifically told otherwise, full school uniform is to be worn on all school excursions. Students without the proper uniform will not be permitted to attend the excursion.
- T-shirts worn under school shirts should not be coloured, patterned or visible (hooded jackets are not permitted at any time).

Hats

- In Primary, hats should be worn outdoors at all times. Primary School has a 'no hat, no play' policy.
- In Secondary, students should wear a school hat whenever they are doing sporting or PDHPE activities outside, where appropriate.

Shoes

- In Primary, shoes worn with the Summer and Winter uniforms must be black, enclosed, polishable leather school shoes. The black, leather, jogger-style shoe is also acceptable.
- In Secondary, shoes worn with the Summer and Winter uniforms must be regulation black, enclosed, polishable, unperforated leather, lace-up school shoes with substantial soles and a distinct heel. The leather must cover the whole upper foot and not have a platform sole or extend over the ankle. This style fulfils safety requirements for practical subjects (ie, Science, D&T, Industrial Technology, Visual Arts, Food Technology and Hospitality).
- Ballet types, buckle or strap styles, slip-ons, high heels, open weave, open toe or open heel styles are not to be worn nor are jogger or skater styles, shoes with extensive laces or perforations, casual or canvas shoes.
- Joggers or cross trainers are only to be worn with the Sports uniform appropriate to the activity.

Jewellery

- Girls are permitted to wear a watch (smart watch notifications, internet and mobile functions should be disabled at school – see Digital Devices Acceptable Use Policy), a simple ring and only one pair of sleepers or studs in their ears. No other piercings are accepted.
- Boys are permitted to wear a watch (smart watch notifications, internet and mobile functions should be disabled at school – see Digital Devices Acceptable Use Policy). No other jewellery, including earrings or piercings, are accepted.
- If new piercings, they MUST be done at the beginning of summer school holidays to ensure sufficient healing time before school term to avoid the wearing of unacceptable piercings which will need to be removed.

Hair and Makeup

- Hair accessories should be navy blue or as close as possible to the child's natural hair colour.
- Hairstyles should be neat and tidy and of a conservative style. Outlandish hairstyles or colours are not acceptable. The College reserves the right to decide whether a haircut or style is acceptable.
- Hair should off the face with long hair tied back at all times in Primary and during practical lessons in Secondary.
- Students are not permitted to wear make-up which draws undue attention. Only clear, colourless nail polish may be worn. No acrylic or fake are nails permitted. No false eyelashes are permitted.
- No visible tattoos are permitted.

NB:

- No uniform substitutes are acceptable. All items, apart from shoes, are available from the Uniform Shop. All new uniform styles and logo mandatory 2020-2021
- Uniform styles in visual form are available at https://bcc.nsw.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/BCC_UniformSummary.pdf
- Register at Alinta website for current uniform information – Alintaapparel.co
- The Uniform page is a ready reference – see the College website <https://bcc.nsw.edu.au/uniform/>
- Secondary School Parent Information Booklet and Primary School Parent Information Booklet
- Appendix 1 refers to Acceptable Shoes and Uniform Requirements for Primary and Secondary students

Appendix 1 - Acceptable Shoes for Primary and Secondary School

	<p>Acceptable School Shoes</p> <p>Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black leather • Laced or Velcro • Upper foot protection • Stepped heel (no higher than 3cm)
	<p>Acceptable School Shoe Option for Primary Only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black leather jogger-style shoe
	<p>Acceptable Sports Shoes</p> <p>Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lace up (no slip-ons) • Cover all of the top of the foot • Provides arch support • Ankle support & sole protection • Conservative colours (e.g. mainly black, white, grey or silver)
	<p>Unacceptable Shoes</p> <p>Unacceptable features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of the upper foot is unprotected • Smooth sole with little or no grip • Thin soft leather offering little protection • Canvas upper e.g. Vans • Fluoro colours

COLLEGE APPROACH TO NOT WEARING CORRECT UNIFORM

When dealing with issues of wearing school uniform properly, College staff need to take into account a number of issues. The Uniform and Dress Standards Policy aims to:

- Reflect the College Discipline Policy where there is a complex mix of grace, mercy and justice
- Be easily managed and avoid the inevitable problems that arise from different staff interpretations of the policy
- Take into account significant matters such as physical or mental health issues
- Create minimal work for staff in enforcing uniform standards without compromising the intent of the policy
- Be easily understood by both parents/carers and students
- Encourage a self-motivated obedient yet cheerful response by students

Checking that students are wearing the correct uniform remains the responsibility of all teachers. The most important consideration in maintaining standards across the College is consistency. Each class teacher or supervising sport teacher is responsible for monitoring and administering policy requirements. The Heads of School and Deputy Principal can be consulted when doubts arise about the suitability of specific items worn with the uniform.

Students out of uniform are required to bring a note from home explaining the reason for being out of uniform. In Primary, this will be given to the class teacher. In Secondary, students should provide this note to their Period 1 teacher who will register the information on the College Management System. There is an expectation that students being out of uniform will only be for short periods in extenuating circumstances with every effort to correct that matter quickly.

When students are out of uniform without good reason or a note from home, there will be a firm, fair and friendly approach applied to encourage students to correct the breaches of the uniform policy.

Early steps of correction

1. Class teachers will check uniform in Period 1 each day and students will be provided with the opportunity to self-correct any easy fixes (for example, removal of extraneous jewellery, tucking in of shirts, correction of skirt length, etc) with no further action taken. The approach taken will be age appropriate.
2. Where easy correction is not possible, teachers will record the breach on the College Management System.
3. Monitoring will occur throughout the day. Where poor choices are made later in the day despite the opportunity to self-correct in Period 1, teachers will record these breaches on the College Management System.

Escalation of ongoing breaches

1. Teachers will refer students that repeatedly breach the uniform policy to the Stage Leaders and Heads of School for further action.
2. Leaders will address repeated breaches on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature and extent of the breaches. Actions may include detention, removal from extracurricular activities, parent notification, parent meetings, warning of suspension and eventual suspension from school if previous steps to correct breaches have been unsuccessful.

DRESS CODE FOR COLLEGE SANCTIONED FUN DAYS/MUFTI DAYS

For Fun Days/Mufti Days - it is good to consider that students may be participating in a range of different activities, so appropriate clothing would be best for all students to wear.

- No thongs or slip-on shoes (WHS requirements for practical classrooms and the playground)
- No strapless tops or exposed midriffs for all students
- No transparent (see-through) clothing
- T-shirts/shirts/jackets/hoodies should not display offensive material. Inappropriate slogans or messages should be avoided (this is at the discretion of BCC Staff)
- Jeans or shorts are acceptable for all students
- Shorts for girls should be no shorter than College sports short guidelines
- Dresses for girls should be no shorter than present uniform guidelines