STUDENT DRESS CODE

Help for Non-English Speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Elevation Secondary College on 8339 8000.

For translation call number below; Aşağıdaki çeviri telefon numarası için; Để dịch số điện thoại bên dưới; Wixii tarjubaan ah wac lambarka hoose; Mo fa'aliliuga telefoni numera o lo'o i lalo; अनुवादको लागि तलको नम्बरमा कल गर्नुहोस्; ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਲਈ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਨੰਬਰ 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ; ترجمہ کے لیے نیچے دیے گئے نمبر پر کال کریں۔; 对于下面的翻译电话号码; अनुवाद के लिए नीचे दिए गए कॉल नंबर; மொழிபெயர்ப்புக்கு கீழே உள்ள எண்ணை அழைக்கவும்; للترجمة رقم الاتصال أدناه

8339 8000

PURPOSE

This Student Dress Code has been developed by Elevation Secondary College's School Council in close consultation with the school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students, whilst reflecting the values and interests of the community.

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the Student Dress Code Policy where appropriate.

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

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 based on 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

Uniform compliance is a core expectation linked to readiness to learn and a sense of belonging at Elevation Secondary College.

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code and wear the school uniform with pride while travelling to and from school, during school hours, and when attending school activities, excursions or events.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Students may wear any uniform item regardless of gender. There are no gender-based restrictions.

General Appearance

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

- Full school uniform must be worn when travelling to and from school.
- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair.
- Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner's name.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Dress Code

Students may wear any of the Elevation Secondary College uniform items made available to them. However, students cannot mix items between the academic and physical education uniform.

The blazer and weatherproof jacket (with logo) are the only items of outerwear permitted over the academic or physical education uniform, including when travelling to and from school.

Black leather school shoes for the academic uniform are compulsory. Black leather runners, skate shoes, slippers, dance shoes or street shoes are not permitted. Black leather T-bar sandals are permitted provided they have a fully enclosed toe, heel and side.

The school bag is compulsory and must be purchased from the uniform supplier, Noone Imagewear.

The school tie is required for formal occasions, including assemblies, excursions and school photographs. Students are expected to attend assemblies in full academic uniform, including a tie. Uniform compliance is managed in line with the College's broader behaviour framework, guided by consistency.

Students will wear the academic uniform except when:

- Students have a timetabled physical education double lesson (Years 7–10), in which case the physical education uniform is worn for that day. Runners or trainers of any colour are permitted with the physical education uniform
- VCE classes specify an alternative requirement for a particular activity, which will be clearly communicated by the classroom teacher.
- Casual clothes days may be approved for special events and will be communicated clearly by the College. Clothing must remain appropriate, safe, free from offensive imagery, and respectful of a workplace environment.

Acceptable Uniform

Official school items must be purchased from Noone Imagewear and cannot be substituted, except generic black stockings or socks and generic charcoal grey trousers or shorts that may be purchased from other stores, providing they are the same item.

Academic Uniform

- Backpack (black with logo)
- Blazer (black with logo)
- Pullover and/or vest (grey merino wool with logo)
- Dress (grey stripe)
- Shirt (either long sleeve or short sleeve) (grey check with logo)
- Shorts – either straight or tailored cut (charcoal grey)
- Trousers – either straight or tailored cut (charcoal grey)
- Skirt (grey stripe)
- Tie
- Black socks
- Black or opaque stocking or non-sport tights and/ (worn with skirt or dress)
- Black leather school shoes (as per the Student Dress Code Policy)

Physical Education Uniform

- PE top – long and/or short sleeve (with logo)
- Sports shorts – either regular or long (charcoal grey)
- Tracksuit pants (charcoal grey)
- Black socks
- Appropriate footwear for PE: runners/trainers (as per the Student Dress Code Policy)

Optional Outerwear

- Blazer (black with logo)
- Weatherproof jacket (with logo)

Accessories

- Bucket hat or Baseball Cap (black with logo)
- Gloves (grey or black)
- Scarf (plain grey, or black, or school colours as purchased from Noone Imagewear)

Prohibited Uniform

The following items of school uniform are prohibited:

- Hoodies
- Any jacket/jumper not prescribed in the uniform
- Legging or sport tights
- Any items with non-Elevation Secondary College insignia, signage, logos etc.

Appropriate Dress

Students should dress appropriately for the weather; however, items may be worn trans-seasonally (for example, shorts may be worn year-round):

- The blazer and weatherproof jacket (with logo) may be worn with both the academic and physical education uniform to support appropriate weather protection.
- During Terms two and three, the pullover or vest may be worn.

If extra layers are worn for additional warmth, they will be plain black, white or grey in colour and be covered by the appropriate uniform (non-uniform items(s) cannot be seen) and should not be protruding from underneath the uniform i.e., long sleeve tops under a short sleeve school shirt.

All garments must be worn as intended by the designer/cut of the garment i.e., Items should not be rolled up, hemmed up, sewn or cut to appear in any other way than intended.

Cultural headwear (e.g. hijabs) should be plain and in a school colour i.e., black, grey, white).

Health and Safety

Elevation Secondary College prioritises the health, safety and wellbeing of all students. Uniform and appearance requirements consider occupational health and safety considerations, sun protection, hygiene and the practical demands of learning environments, including applied and technology-based subjects.

Expectations outlined below are designed to minimise risk, support student participation and ensure that all students can engage safely and fully in school activities:

- Hair that is shoulder length or longer is encouraged to be tied back for safety and hygiene.
- Hair must be tied back in applied learning and technology subjects where required for safety.
- Jewellery, nails, hair accessories, cords or similar items that interfere with safety or learning are not permitted.
- Make-up may be worn; however, it must be in neutral, natural tones that align with the College's uniform expectations.
- Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except where safety requires hair to be tied back.
- School uniform hats may be worn outdoors for sun protection but not indoors.
- Sunglasses may be worn during outdoor activities and must meet Australian Standard AS 1067
- Visible tattoos, body ink or markings are not permitted as part of the Elevation Secondary College uniform and must be fully covered while at school, travelling to and from school, and during school activities

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items may be purchased from Noone Imagewear in store or online. Permitted non-branded items may be purchased elsewhere provided they meet College specifications.

Second-hand uniform items are available from Sustainable Schools. Further information about Sustainable Schools can be sought from the front office on request.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, including by balancing longevity of materials with cost.

However, families having trouble meeting uniform costs are encouraged to contact the relevant Year Level Team to discuss available support, including State Schools' Relief and CSEF assistance. We will assist families who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

IMPLEMENTATION

Elevation Secondary College will communicate this Student Dress Code clearly through the school website, transition materials and enrolment information. At the commencement of the academic year, the College prioritises communication and support to ensure students and families understand uniform expectations.

However, if a student arrives at school or presents out of correct uniform without an approved exemption, staff will work with a student to rectify the uniform issue wherever possible. This may include providing uniform items from available school stock, supporting the student to correct the infringement, or contacting parents or carers to request assistance. This process is corrective and restorative in nature and is designed to support readiness to learn rather than punish or exclude students.

Uniform infringements are recorded on Compass. Where noncompliance or patterns of non-compliance emerge, the College will work with students and families to address barriers, reinforce expectations and support compliance, including issuing of consequences, in line with the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

NOTES FROM PARENTS AND CARERS

In exceptional or extenuating circumstances, parents or carers may contact the relevant Year Level Team directly via phone or email to discuss the situation. Where appropriate, the Year Level Team will determine next steps, communicate relevant information to staff, and issue any required authorisation to the student to ensure that flexibility is applied appropriately, consistently and through clear lines of responsibility.

Notes provided directly by students will not be accepted to explain or excuse uniform non-compliance, as this undermines consistency and creates inequity.

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 using the appropriate school form to the principal for an exemption to an aspect of the Student Dress code if:

- families can demonstrate financial hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code. In this case, the school can support families in need of uniform support through various wellbeing avenues.
- 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.
- inhibits students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background.
- impacts a student with a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code.

MEDICAL/HEALTH EXEMPTIONS

Where an exemption is sought on medical or health grounds, supporting documentation must be provided by an appropriately qualified allied health professional whose scope of practice is relevant to the adjustment sought, outlining the reason for the exemption, the nature of the adjustment required and the expected duration.

Medical exemptions are reviewed annually in consultation with families to ensure that support remains appropriate, proportionate and aligned with the students' needs.

MANAGING EXEMPTIONS

All exemption decisions are managed confidentially and recorded in writing. When the principal receives a request for an exemption, they (or a principal delegate) 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 a student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with appropriate and relevant evidence.

The College will 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, the College will communicate this decision to the student and/or their parents/carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

The College welcomes feedback regarding this Student Dress Code. Concerns may be raised in accordance with the College's Complaints Policy.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated via the school website, newsletters, staff briefings, enrolment materials and parent information sessions.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Elevation Secondary College Sun Protection Policy
- Elevation Secondary College Complaint Policy
- Elevation Secondary College Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Elevation Secondary College Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education Student Dress Code
- Department of Education Student Engagement

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

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

- surveys
- information in newsletters
- student meetings
- focus groups.

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

Policy last reviewed	October 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	October 2029