

Student Dress Code Guidelines

PRESHIL VISION STATEMENT

At our core remains an unshakeable commitment to encouraging all children to set and achieve their own goals and to be respected as individuals in their own right. This is a commitment to our children to be nurtured and challenged in an atmosphere that inspires creativity and independent thinking in all areas of life and does not, overtly or subtly, use competition or punishment to motivate through the fear of failure.

As global citizens we encourage an awareness of world issues and encourage effort to make a positive difference. We believe that education should prepare students to be thoughtful, peace-loving and active citizens of the world. Preshil will remain a school that puts kindness, compassion and social relationships at the centre of its operations.

MUTUAL RESPECT STATEMENT

Preshil's emphasis on social and emotional learning involves learning how to recognise and manage emotions, promote caring and concern for others, make responsible decisions, establish and maintain positive relationships, and handle challenging situations effectively. Children who have social and emotional competencies and skills find it easier to manage themselves, relate to others, resolve conflict, and feel positive about themselves and the world around them.

This statement affirms that students have the right to express their needs, to be listened to and taken seriously, to stand up for themselves, to take responsibility for their actions and make their own decisions through the use of conflict resolution and restorative practices skills. These skills are taught in the Kindergarten through to Year 12.

Our emphasis on mutual respect aims to promote a climate of trust and caring amongst the students and adults in our school. It sets standards and provides the commitment that the Preshil community makes to shared values and a code of conduct.

RATIONALE

Students' attire and arrangement of their personal appearance must be safe, healthy, inoffensive, and not disruptive to the educational process. It should also be practical and comfortable for a range of school activities, recognising what is appropriate for diverse activities that may occur during a normal school day. The Heads of Campus reserves the right to disapprove any items not addressed in this dress code but considered disruptive to the school. Decisions to disapprove items will be based on the goal of providing a safe and disruption-free environment for the education of all students.

PURPOSE

This Dress Code is intended to

- create a positive climate for teaching and learning.
- maintain and enhance the unique image of the school in the community.
- reduce the possibility of discipline problems, and foster positive school order and safety.

- seek compliance from students in a respectful manner to maintain a positive school culture
- cater for all students in the school community in a manner sensitive to gender, cultural, religious and social issues.
- comply with Health and Safety requirements in spaces where tools or chemicals are used (Science, kitchen) - change to closed-toe shoes for the Science lab and Physical Education (P.E.)
- ensure that personal protective equipment is utilised when safe operating procedures require it

IMPLEMENTATION

- This Dress Code will be published on the school website and form part of a suite of policies communicated to parents in the enrolment process.
- The Head of Campus and or the Year Level Coordinator will ensure that students, parents/guardians, and staff are advised of the dress code guidelines at the beginning of each school year and throughout the school year when deemed appropriate via the student handbooks and school newsletters.
- Students' style of dress or grooming must meet the reasonable requirements of a course or activity. Accordingly, students are prohibited from wearing clothing, headwear, jewellery, tattoos, sunglasses, book bags, or other articles of personal appearance that:
 - depict profanity, obscenity, the use of weapons, or violence.
 - promote the use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or other illegal or harmful products.
 - contain sexually suggestive messages.
 - are sexually revealing or offensive for staff and students
 - contain language or symbols that offend or demean an identifiable person or group or otherwise infringe on the rights of others.
 - endanger health or safety.
 - are revealing and inappropriate for a working environment
 - are restrictive and do not allow participation in the full curriculum

Where there is evidence that a student's attire or personal appearance violates this dress code, the Head of Campus will investigate and take corrective actions, including but not limited to the following:

- Requiring the student to remove, change or cover the offending item.
- Taking reasonable steps to notify the student's parents/guardians of repeat violations.
- In extreme cases this may include suspension from school.

Review

This dress code is reviewed by the Head of Campus and Student Leaders on an annual basis. These guidelines were reviewed in May 2023.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

The following examples are provided for guidance only. The following items of clothing or fashion accessories may be considered inappropriate for the School environment.

- Clothing worn in such a manner so as to reveal undergarments and/or an excessive amount of bare skin.
- Footwear appropriate to school activity. (For example: closed toes for the Science Lab, runners at PHE). As a guide footwear must be secured around the foot.
- Jewellery/body piercing (example: spiked jewellery, chokers, rings, bracelets) that poses a health or safety hazard.
- Long acrylic fingernails that impede the ability to work safely

Appendix B

That the Sunsmart policy be used in conjunction with the dress code policy. Sunsmart is seen as an important component of student health and wellbeing.

(See Sunsmart Policy)