



# Bullsbrook College Uniform Policy

## FACT SHEET

The Bullsbrook College Uniform Policy is clear and straightforward and is readily available from our website (Policies), CONNECT or our school Reception. However, some points are made below which may assist to minimise any confusion.

### **Focus on Education**

Dress codes are tangible evidence of the standards expected of students and play an important role in promoting positive images of schools. A school's dress code supports all students to participate fully in school life. Dress codes can help create a sense of identity and a school culture in which every student experiences a sense of belonging. Wearing a school uniform is an accepted part of school culture across Australia in public and private schools.

### **Bullsbrook Logo**

In 2013/2014 we changed up our uniform policy. This was in response to a statewide trend in public schools to raise the standard of dress. The "plain navy blue" uniform had resulted in students wearing such a varied range of clothing that it did not present a positive image of Bullsbrook College or public education. Community consultation resulted in our present uniform. The purchase of uniform items with our College crest and banner is more conducive to setting and maintaining a consistent standard. Our uniform is more casual than that of other public schools in the city.

### **Role of P and C**

Dress codes for students in public schools are determined by School Boards, P and C Associations and the school community. Our P and C volunteers work hard to support making the purchase of the uniform as accessible as possible for parents and students.

### **White Undershirts**

In cold weather an extra layer is helpful for warmth. Because white undershirts are more easily available in shops it was white that was chosen. Uniforms are about comfort, consistency and neatness. Plain, dark navy blue is acceptable. "Hoodies" are not acceptable.

### **We're not a private school.**

We are a proud public school with a less expensive and more relaxed uniform. However, our school's students are just as important and have the right to be led by teachers with high expectations for their wellbeing, behaviour and appearance.

## **Socks**

Whilst our Uniform Policy includes a recommendation for students to wear socks which are white or navy blue, we do not actively enforce that. It is only a suggestion which would enhance our uniform.

## **Quality of Uniforms**

Our supplier provides uniforms to public and private schools across Perth. As with any purchase, if the item has been washed and used according to the care instructions there should be no issue. On occasions when there has been an issue, the supplier has corrected the problem. When choosing a supplier, quality was a big consideration.

## **Uniform Shop**

Our uniform is sold for almost cost price with minimal mark up. This is enabled by the efforts of hardworking P and C volunteers who operate the shop on a shoe string. There is no profit margin and when items are sold the money is used to purchase new stock for replacement orders. The money is P and C money not school money and is used to pay for replacement stock. Staff must follow financial protocols.

## **Sports Shirts**

There is a Bullsbrook College Physical Education (PE) shirt which is optional for students to purchase and wear during PE. It is not compulsory to buy this. For reasons of general hygiene secondary students must change for PE but it doesn't have to be a Bullsbrook College shirt. A T shirt alternative is acceptable.

## **Community Support/Hardship**

Our policy states on page 1:

“Part of our College’s policy is to be supportive of parents and students who are in hardship. The Learning Support Team will have loan uniforms for students in extreme circumstances. The Learning Support Team will manage this confidentially.”

## **Consequences for Non Compliance**

It is our wish to work in positive partnerships. It is always a last resort to move to having to apply consequences. Students thrive when schools and families work supportively together. No student has been, or will be, suspended for not wearing uniform.

## **Consultation**

There was wide and extensive consultation with parents, students and staff. Students voted on styles and colours. A phase in period of over 12 months was part of that process.