Relevant Legislation and Policy

This policy has been developed in accordance with the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 (Sections 360-363, Section 282) and the Department of Education, Training and Employment’s policy: Student Dress Code. It clearly explains and documents the standards of acceptable dress at Upper Coomera State College. The College Dress Code is endorsed by the P&C Association.

DRESS CODE STATEMENT

Upper Coomera State College is a full-uniform College. Under the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, a Principal may develop a dress code to apply when students are attending or representing the school.

The following Student Dress Code clearly explains and documents standards of acceptable dress within Upper Coomera State College.

The school uniform is advocated by the school community for the following reasons:

- Ready identification of students and non-students at school promoting student safety;
- Promoting the college values of Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe;
- It develops mutual respect among students through minimizing visible evidence of economic or social differences;
- It gives students a sense of personal pride in their own appearance;
- The link between dress standards, school discipline and academic success;
- Fostering a sense of belonging to the wider College community;
- Developing mutual respect among students and the wider community.

The college urges all parents to support the accepted standard of dress by ensuring their students follow the dress code policy as outlined below.
DRESS CODE POLICY

Uniform

1. All uniform items are to be purchased in the college uniform shop. Look-a-like items are not acceptable. Students are to purchase the appropriate size clothing.

2. Students are required to wear their formal uniform for all formal occasions such as excursions (unless otherwise specified), awards nights, college photos, other college or public functions.

3. Students may wear formal uniform, general uniform, or a combination of both on any other occasion.

4. Socks are to be clearly visible, white ankle socks (not footlet socks).

5. Jumpers, other than those with the official UCSC logo, are not permitted to be worn.

6. UCSC uniforms are not to be altered in any fashion. This strictly includes (but is not limited to):
   a. Cutting and shortening of hemlines;
   b. Rolling up of sleeves and short legs;
   c. Rolling down of skirt tops;
   d. Re-embroidering, replicating or reproducing the College logo/badges.
      To do so is contravening copyright laws and will be pursued by the College.

7. Visible undershirts are not permitted to be worn.

8. The college understands and accepts that some religions have specific dress requirements.

(Refer to Appendix 1 for acceptable uniform items)
Shoes

Due to Workplace Health and Safety regulations students’ footwear must provide adequate protection and cover the entire foot. Footwear selection must also take into account the health benefits of growing children wearing supportive footwear to minimize future health risks.

Students must wear:
- Black, fully enclosed, cleanable leather or leather look shoes with black laces;
- Black fully enclosed cleanable leather or leather look shoes with Velcro fasteners;
- Students participating in sporting activities under the supervision of a staff member may change into sport specific footwear for that activity only. Students must change back into school footwear once the activity is completed.

The following items are unacceptable:
- Shoes with coloured trims or logos, canvas lace up shoes, canvas shoes without laces, slip on shoes of any style or colour, regardless of whether they are black or not or footwear that does not cover the entire foot.
- Boots that come above the ankle, whether they are black leather or not;
- The College has strict expectations and requirements concerning appropriate and regulated footwear. The College reserves the right to make judgements on the acceptability or otherwise of footwear and will not enter into further discussion on decisions made in this regard.

(Refer to Appendix 1 for further information on appropriate footwear)

Jewellery

- One earring (plain studs or sleepers) per ear for pierced ears. Studs are to be no larger than 5mm in diameter. Sleepers are to be no larger than a 5 cent piece;
- Only skin coloured, solid spacers are acceptable to be worn;
- One wrist watch;
- Items required for identification of medical conditions;
- Religious or cultural necklaces may be worn out of sight;
- UCSC in no way accepts facial or body piercings that are visible to the public. Clear alternatives are not acceptable or permitted;
- No other accessories are to be worn.
- The above jewellery standards apply to any occasion during or out of school hours including, but not limited to, where a student is at the College, representing the College in any way, dressed in College uniform including uniforms for various sporting, extra-curricular or other programs where the College is represented by the student, or the College is on display in the community.

**Hair and Makeup**

All students at the college are to be well groomed and the following must be adhered to:

- Hair must be neat, clean, tidy and maintained to a presentable standard;
- Long hair (longer than shoulder length) is to be tied back in areas where Workplace Health and Safety policies apply;
- It is unacceptable for hair to be coloured or dyed a ‘non-natural’ colour. Students will be asked to recolour to a more natural colour at their own expense;
- Students may wear hair ribbons or clips in the college colours. All other accessories are not permitted. These include but are not limited to bandanas, beanies, bright coloured headwear;
- Eyeliner, eye shadow, mascara, and other heavy makeup is not permitted.
- Coloured nail polish and nail patterns are not permitted, including false nails or nail attachments.

Students may be asked to remove excess makeup and coloured nails and nail polish.

The College will not be held liable for any damages for student or parents personal items whilst on school premises or at a school activity.
OUT OF UNIFORM PROCEDURES

Students unable to wear an item of the uniform for good reason must bring a note and follow the procedures below:

Junior School (Prep – Year 6)
Students unable to wear an item of the correct uniform must comply with the following procedures:

- Report to class as per normal each morning;
- Teachers note the uniform breach on ID Attend and send the student to the office;
- Students provide a note from parents explaining the uniform breach and the period for which this will exist;
- Where possible, contact will be made with the parent/guardian to negotiate a solution to the uniform breach;
- Where the student’s dress is deemed appropriate, the student will be issued with a signed uniform slip indicating that they have followed procedures which will indicate length and reason for the uniform breach;
- Incorrect uniform items may be confiscated for the day by a member of administration in consultation with the parent/guardian.

Secondary School (Year 7 – Year 12)
Students unable to wear an item of the correct uniform must comply with the following procedures:

- Report to the Student Services window upon arrival at school;
- Provide a note from home explaining the uniform breach and the period for which this will exist;
- Where possible, contact will be made with the parent/guardian to negotiate a solution to the uniform breach;
- Where the student’s dress is deemed appropriate, the student will be issued with a signed uniform slip indicating that they have followed procedures which will indicate length and reason for the uniform breach;
- Display the note to all staff, upon request, at all times;
- Students in breach of these procedures may have the incorrect uniform item confiscated for the day in consultation with the parent/guardian.

Section 362 of the Act

(1) If a student of a State school does not comply with a dress code for the school’s students, developed under section 360, the school’s principal may only impose one of the following sanctions—

a. detention of the student for a period mentioned in section 283(3);

b. prevent the student from attending, or participating in, any activity for which the student would have been representing the school;

c. prevent the student from attending, or participating in, any school activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school’s principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school.

The Dress Code Policy and Procedures will be reviewed throughout the course of the year. Any changes to the Dress Code policy will be endorsed by the Parents and Citizens Association.

Uniform Policy Clause for Students with a Disability or Identified Medical Condition

On occasion students with a disability or identified medical condition may require specific adjustments to their school uniform under their Education Adjustment Program Profile (EAP 36) as a result of additional specialist input from: - Advisory Visiting Teacher (AVT) - Occupational Therapist - Orientation and Mobility Specialist - Physiotherapist - Speech-Language Pathologist.

Where a student requires a specific uniform adjustment, the Head of Special Education Services (HOSES) will advise school personnel on the specifications of their uniform adjustment. Students with a disability may undertake a sensory profile supported by the identified Occupational Therapist to identify a specific sensory difficulty relating to the adjustment of wearing items of the school uniform.

Students with a disability may require such adjustments to the following uniform items:

- Shoes
- Shirt
- Short
- Socks
- Hat
- Jumper/Jacket
Procedures for Teachers – Secondary School

Student arrives to class or Student Services

- Is uniform correct? [YES] - Positive comment—Great to see you are in perfect uniform today

- Is the breach incorrect: shoes, socks, pants, shorts, skirt, jumpers, nail polish, makeup? [YES] - Send student to Administration With an OUT OF CLASS PASS indicating reason as Uniform breach

- Ask the student to remove excess jewellery (ex: facial piercings, earrings,) and record breach on ID Attend

- Was student compliant? [YES] - Refer to Student Support

- Student is out of Uniform during break

- Was student compliant? [YES] - Student returns to class with signed note indicating uniform has been addressed

- Student arrives to class or Student Services

- Is uniform correct? [YES] - Positive comment—Great to see you are in perfect uniform today

- Is the breach incorrect: shoes, socks, pants, shorts, skirt, jumpers, nail polish, makeup? [YES] - Send student to Administration With an OUT OF CLASS PASS indicating reason as Uniform breach

- Ask the student to remove excess jewellery (ex: facial piercings, earrings,) and record breach on ID Attend

- Was student compliant? [YES] - Refer to Student Support

- Student is out of Uniform during break

- Was student compliant? [YES] - Student returns to class with signed note indicating uniform has been addressed

- Refer to DP or Principal

ONLY students with a SIGNED UNIFORM PASS from administration indicating the reason and length of the uniform breach have approval to not be in correct uniform as per the Dress Code Policy.
Procedures for Staff – Junior School

Student arrives at class

- Is uniform correct?
  - YES: Positive comment—Great to see you are in perfect uniform today
  - NO: Note the Uniform breach on ID ATTEND. Send student to Administration

Administration to address uniform and contact parent to work out a solution → WELFARE ISSUE → Refer to Student Support

- Was student compliant?
  - YES: Student returns to class
  - NO: Refer to DP or Principal

ONLY students with a SIGNED UNIFORM PASS from administration indicating the reason and length of the uniform breach have approval to not be in correct uniform as per the Dress Code Policy.