KEILOR DOWNS COLLEGE - UNIFORM POLICY

Rationale:

The Keilor Downs College community strongly supports the principle of a uniform to be worn by all students.

The uniform is seen by the community as a symbol and reflection of the College's Wellbeing and Engagement programs, and is an important element for parents in the selection of a secondary College for their children.

For students, a uniform provides a sense of belonging and helps to instil recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community. The uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance and provides comfortable, suitable and safe clothing to wear throughout the school day.

Students are easily identifiable in uniform within the College grounds, on excursions, in the community and on sporting occasions. This enables staff to better supervise and exercise their duty of care towards students. It also enables members of the broader community to recognise and acknowledge the successes of Keilor Downs College students.

Aims

This policy has been developed with the following aims:

- To promote equality amongst all students.
- To help develop a sense of pride in, and identification within the College.
- To provide cost effective, durable and practical clothing in a school setting.
- To promote a positive College image in the broader community.

Criteria

The Keilor Downs College uniform will be determined using a set of criteria. These criteria will be applied to all aspects of the uniform, including the sports uniform, and will be the basis upon which any changes to the uniform are made.

The criteria shall be:

That the uniform and guidelines covering the wearing of uniform will:

- Offer, variety of choice and flexibility, taking into consideration individual student size.
- Be durable and hard wearing.
- Be comfortable and suitable for the purpose (ie. PE uniform).
- Be affordable.
- Be easy to care for.
- Provide protection against sun in summer and cold in winter
- Provide for the health and safety of our students
- Use, as much as possible, the College logo for easy identification.

Implementation

The wearing of the Keilor Downs College uniform is compulsory, and is accepted as a condition of enrolment at the College.

The student enrolment package will include a "Uniform Agreement" to be signed by the parent/guardian and student. This agreement outlines the acceptance of College policies and expectations, specifically the uniform code, as a condition of enrolment. **It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian and student to ensure that the correct school attire is worn at all times.**

The College will provide assistance for parents who face difficulties in providing the full uniform for their child.

The College will develop a uniform code based on the above criteria which will clearly state:

1. Items of uniform.
2. Guidelines for the correct wearing of these items.
3. Items that are unacceptable.

This code will be published in the Student Study Planner and required to be signed by the student and the parent/guardian on an annual basis. Reminders will be published regularly through Compass and the College Newsletter about the uniform code and policy. The uniform code and policy will be available to all members of the College community on request and by visiting the College website.

Responsibilities

In supporting the policy of compulsory uniform for all students, **all members of the College community must share responsibility for the correct wearing of uniform**.

Students: Will ensure that they are correctly attired, and that the uniform is worn according to the published uniform code.

Parents: Will ensure that their children have all the required items of uniform, and that notes and medical certificates are supplied should it become impossible for their child to be correctly attired.

Staff: Will ensure that students understand the uniform code, and that the required follow-up occurs when this code is breached. This follow-up may include detentions and parental contact, as well as support for parents who are experiencing difficulties in purchasing uniform items.

On occasion there may be out-of-uniform days, with these days being managed by Students Making a Difference (SMAD). On all other occasions students are expected to wear approved College uniform.

Suppliers of College Uniform

In line with the set criteria, Keilor Downs College wishes to ensure that the College uniform maintains its integrity of quality by School Council ownership of logo and manufacturing design. Contractual agreements will be entered into with a manufacturer who is able to ensure quality, design and availability to out College community. **Uniform items can be purchased from a range of suppliers, provided each item is an original fabric, design and quality from the school's designated manufacturer**. These manufacturing contractual agreements are to be reviewed after 5 years or earlier by mutual agreement. Any commissions gained through contractual agreements will be redirected to benefit and support families in need of uniform through the Student Services Welfare Team.

Review of Uniform

In order to ensure that the College uniform maintains the highest standards and that the uniform continues to meet the set criteria, it is recognised that the uniform code needs to be regularly reviewed. These reviews will be undertaken by a staff working party, seeking feedback from parents, students and staff.

Reviews should take place as follows:

- Minor review: this should occur each year to ensure clear understanding from all members of the College community. No changes to uniform items will take place, the uniform code and consequences will be updated if necessary.
- Major review: this will occur to coincide with the commencing of every School Strategic Plan (SSP) ie. every 4 years. The review should be completed at least 12 months before any proposed changes are to be implemented, with a clear implementation process if any changes are recommended.

If major changes to uniform are recommended, a consultant should be engaged to implement changes in the most effective manner.