

School Uniform Dress Code

Biblical Basis

Matthew 6:25

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?"

Romans 13:1-2

¹ Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. ² Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

1 Peter 3:3

³ Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes.

It is the policy of Illawarra Christian Education that parents make every effort to provide the approved school uniform and to ensure that their children wear it every day.

Why Have Uniforms?

The Illawarra Christian Education Association has at various times affirmed their desire that our students wear a uniform. We share this custom with most Australian schools and believe the wearing of a uniform to be consistent with the following Christian principles:

- a uniform expresses a common identity, helping students to feel part of a body, in this case the community of the school
- a uniform is a practical solution to the issue of dress for students, it allows families to use their resources wisely and minimizes distinctions between students
- a uniform frees students from unnecessary distractions
- a uniform ensures students are dressed decently and modestly
- when clearly defined, and firmly adhered to, a uniform avoids time wastage and stress for parents, teachers and board members on minor matters of dress

Criteria on Which Uniform Selection is Based

I.C.S. uniform should be: practical, comfortable, durable, suitable to the climate, modest, appropriate to the growth and development of the students, readily obtainable, affordable, good value for money, neat and attractive.

Other considerations: there needs to be overall uniformity with stages of progression within the school marked by some changes in uniform. Any changes in uniform should retain the overall co-ordination of colour and style. The increasing maturity of senior students needs to be recognised by building choices into permitted uniform. Accessories in Years K-12 to be restricted to those with a practical function.

Communications Between School and Home Concerning Uniforms

1. Where a child is temporarily out of uniform (e.g. an item is lost), parents should provide a note to the roll or class teacher.

2. Where a longer term exemption is required (e.g. for a medical condition), a medical certificate should be provided to the roll or class teacher.
3. Where a student is failing to comply with the uniform policy, teachers are required by the Board to:
 - A. draw the matter to the attention of the student and/or
 - B. communicate with the parents using a pro-forma letter provided for the purpose.

The action taken will seek to show regard to the particular circumstances (e.g. the age of the child concerned).

Provisions for Making Change to Uniforms

Every effort has been made to provide a uniform which meets the needs of the school community. It is not envisaged that changes will take place frequently from here on, and in the interests of stability, this is not desirable. However, should an item no longer meet the criteria listed in this document (e.g. no longer readily available), the following steps could be taken in this order:

1. Draw the matter to the attention of the CCS/ICS School Committees.
2. If the School Committee decides to pursue the matter, it may refer it to the wider school community for input or refer it to the Uniform Committee and/or appropriate task force for research and recommendations. This should include the Uniform Shop Coordinator.
3. The Uniform committee and/or appropriate task force will send its findings, recommendations to the School Committee.
4. If the School Committee decides on a change, it will send their recommendations to the School Executive for approval.
5. If approved, the School Principal informs the School Committee, the Board, the Uniform Shop, teaching staff and wider school community.
6. The Illawarra Christian Education's Senior Executive will authorise changes to the school uniform document.

Dress Code

Each school has a standard uniform, which should be worn at all times in accordance with the following guidelines:

- All clothing should be neat, clean and in good repair.
- All clothing should be of the style and colours described in the specified uniform information.
- All clothing to be of modest fit.
- Slacks and tops are not to be tight fitting, hems are to be below knee length (except Senior Secondary) where length is below knee to mid calf.
- Shirts with the exception of sports shirts and the secondary girl's shirts are to be worn tucked in. Shirts are to be buttoned except for the top button.
- Footwear should be leather lace up school shoes in good repair for both male and female students. For safety reasons; the entire top of the foot needs to be covered. Thongs and joggers are not permitted.
- Hairstyles are not to restrict a student's vision. Hair must be kept clean neat and in a natural colour. Hair accessories where needed should be bottle green, black or white for Illawarra Christian School and red, black or white for Calderwood Christian School.
- Students (other than Years 11 and 12 students who are permitted to wear MODERATE amounts of JEWELLERY and MAKE-UP) should not wear fingernail polish or make-up or any jewellery, except for watches and a small dress ring.

- Small headed studs or sleepers of neutral colour (at most one per ear) can only be worn in ears. No other pierced body parts to hold jewellery.
- Tattoos are discouraged and must not be visible at any time (including sporting events).
- Complete sport's uniform may be worn to and from school by students on the weekly sport's day.
- Secondary students are to change into sports uniform at school for P.E. lessons. If students have P.E. during last period, they may go home in their sports uniform.
- Hats are compulsory all year round for Prep to Year 12.
- Parents should make every effort to provide the approved school uniform and ensure that their children wear it every day. Should any family have practical difficulties meeting this requirement they should refer to the Principal/Deputy Principal.

Policy History

Version	Revised By	Approved	Description	Next Review
1.0		2007	Initial Release	
1.1	G. Batten & C. Muscat	June 2012	Inclusion of Biblical Basis	2015
1.2	G. Batten & C. Muscat	August 2012	Additions re: Tatts, Studs & body piercing	2015
1.3	G. Batten & C. Muscat	August 2013	Minor changes to Decision making process from "Campus Principal" to "School Executive"	2015
1.4	Exec Assistant to Exec Principal	Pre-approved October 2016	Change of operational name to ICE, Campus to School and reformatting	2017