



Roma State College

College Dress Code

as at December 2023

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1 RATIONALE

A uniform policy (dress code) reinforces students' pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of affordability, functionality and durability, equality, health and school safety, and expense are factors that contribute to the college's dress code.

This policy aligns with the Queensland Department of Education's policies and procedures on student dress codes and is endorsed by the Roma State College (RSC) Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) and school staff.

2 AIM

- To promote equality among all students.
- To further develop a sense of pride in and identification with our school.
- To provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment.
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community.
- To be consistent with health and safety considerations.
- To provide clear guidelines to the whole school community.

3 IMPLEMENTATION

- After consultation with the school community, RSC has developed a College Dress Code that we believe provides choice for the students, allows for students to safely engage in the many varied school activities, and caters for the financial constraints of families.
- The College Dress Code applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when students are on school excursions (unless explicitly stated otherwise in information to parents and carers)
- Summer uniforms, winter uniforms and sports uniforms will be prescribed and are required to be worn.
- The College Dress Code, including details of uniform items and places of purchase, will be published on the website.
- The principal is responsible for implementation of the dress code (as covered by the College Dress Code) in a manner consistent with the endorsed behaviour management policies for students.
- Arrangements may be made to supply uniforms via the school administration for families experiencing economic hardship.
- Parents seeking exemptions to the uniform policy due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the principal and provide evidence to support their case.

4 NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE RSC COLLEGE DRESS CODE

Students not conforming with this College dress code/Appearance Policy:

- Will be offered appropriate item/s from bank of clothing/uniforms held at the College;
- Will be instructed to remove non-compliant jewellery/make-up;
- May have their parent/s contacted to bring appropriate item/s to the college;
- May be prevented from attending or participating in any activity for which the student is representing the college;
- May be prevented from attending or participating in any school activity that is not an essential school educational program;
- May have a detention imposed during lunch or after school. (NB: If after school, parents will be informed the day before).

Persistent non-compliance with this code or instructions given in relation to this code will result in referral where further disciplinary action may be applied (as per the Student Code of Conduct).

5 THE RSC UNIFORM

Our college dress code reflects the high standards embraced at RSC and has been endorsed by the RSC P&C Association.

Students are expected to make a personal commitment to present themselves well. This will reflect not only their personal pride, but also a positive identity of RSC in the community. Students are expected to wear the complete school uniform at all times, including to and from the college.

It is important that the school community as a whole support and upholds the uniform policy and accepts a shared responsibility for upholding these standards.

6 RESPONSIBILITIES

Communication with the parent/carer is key in creating and fostering strong, positive relationships between school and home. The college is committed to open and cooperative communication.

6a Students

- to be well presented and wear the school's uniform as prescribed by the RSC Dress Code.
- to comply with any requests or directions from school staff regarding appearance or standards of dress, and to comply with any health and safety requirements as directed by school staff.

6b Parents and caregivers

- to commit to supporting the dress code as part of the enrolment agreement.
- to assist students to develop maturity, responsibility and self-discipline by supporting the student to adhere to the uniform policy, and ensuring students attend school well presented.
- to work with the school to resolve issues regarding compliance with the uniform policy and support the authority of the school in enforcing the uniform policy.
- to request short- or long-term exemptions to the uniform policy in writing, providing reasons for the request to support and assist students to comply with health and safety requirements (refer to section 8).

6c School Staff

- to clearly articulate the school's expectations and requirements regarding the uniform policy.
- to fairly and equitably enforce the uniform policy using agreed practices.
- to inform and support parents to develop strategies to assist the student to comply with the uniform policy.
- to determine, document and inform parents and students of reasons for decisions on exemptions from the uniform policy.
- to provide appropriate direction to students to ensure they comply with health and safety requirements.

6d Principal and Heads of School

- to consult with students, school staff, parents and the P&C Association when developing and reviewing the school's dress code.
- to approve the dress code and/or any amendments to the dress code.
- to approve any proposed changes to the school uniform, dress and appearance standards, and uniform policy.

7 WEARING THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

The following dress code is the standard uniform for RSC. School uniforms are not to be altered in any fashion, including but not limited to:

- Cutting and shortening of hemlines.
- Rolling up of sleeves and shorts.
- Rolling down of skirt tops.
- Re-embroidering, replicating or reproducing the school logo and badges. To do so is contravening

copyright laws and will be pursued by the school.

- Graffiti or writing on uniform items (Note: consideration may be given to uniform signing at end of the year i.e., Year 12 shirts, etc.).
- Underclothes should not compromise our uniform standards. Students who wish to wear 'undershirts' are only permitted to wear white or navy.

7a Uniform Items

	Details
Dress Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Shirt – Chambray, with logo • Navy pants • Navy skirt or navy shorts
Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RSC Polo shirt with emblem (Navy shirt with gold stripe, and gold on the collar) • Navy shorts, skorts
Winter Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy drill pants or navy track pants • RSC navy and gold (spray jacket/hoodie) or plain navy jumper • Navy tights/stockings
Shoes and socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predominantly black sport or black leather type shoes (with a low heel) with dress uniform • Predominantly black or white sports shoes may be worn with uniform • Fully enclosed shoes for safety reasons. No sandals, crocs, slides or thongs • Plain white socks OR RSC emblem socks OR navy stockings
Hats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SunSafe, RSC navy with gold trim with emblem including reversible RSC hat. • Caps are not permitted to be worn at school.
Inter-house Uniforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House shirt and navy shorts for interhouse sporting events • House shirts are permitted to be worn on a designated day • Arcadia – Green, Carnarvon – Yellow, Balonne – Blue, Maranoa – Red
Cultural Headwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be plain white, blue or black with no sequins.
Hair Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ribbons, bows, headbands and scrunchies - it is recommended for formal uniform (gold or navy) and for sports uniform (may match school or house colours). Where possible, hair ties should match hair colour or be white or black. Hair jewellery is not permitted.
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum jewellery is permitted i.e., watch, one pair of small gold or silver sleeper or stud earrings only • Parents and caregivers may apply to the Head of Schools and/or the principal for an exemption for their child/ren to wear jewellery items for cultural, medical or religious reasons

7b Dress Uniform

The dress uniform for Senior Campus students is expected to be worn at all school formal functions, including, but not limited to, awards ceremonies, ANZAC Day march, and day excursions. Students are encouraged to wear the dress uniform during regular school days and year levels will have a designated day to do so.

7c Jewellery

Minimum jewellery is permitted.

- Discreet plain studs or sleepers (in ears)
- One other discreet visible piercing (e.g., in nose), must meet WH&S guidelines
- Watch
- Bracelets/necklace worn for medical reasons only
- Necklaces worn for religious/cultural reasons ONLY may be worn under clothing on a thin, discreet chain
- Any jewellery that exceeds the acceptable guidelines or is considered a high risk e.g., large piercing pieces or spacers are not allowed.

7d Cosmetics and Finger Nails

- Only natural coloured, discreet make-up and nail polish is allowed.

7e Hair

Moderation of 'acceptable' hairstyle and colour is at the discretion of the Administration. If you have any doubts, please consult the Heads of School or Principal before having the hair cut or coloured.

As a general guide, the following standards apply:

- Hair is to be of one natural colour (no bright streaks or bright colours)
- Hair below shoulder length should be tied back. This is expected in certain subjects to meet WH&S guidelines
- Hair is to be neat and tidy at all times and worn off the face.

7f School Bags

Should not be marked with graffiti. Suitable tags and ties may be used to assist in identifying ownership.

7g Personal Hygiene

Personal cleanliness is the responsibility of each and every student.

7h Body Art

It is expected that body art, such as tattoos, are completely covered and not visible. Covering may be a skin-coloured bandage.

7i Special circumstances

- Year 12 ONLY may wear their year jersey and Senior shirt to school
- Year 6 may wear their year 6 shirt to school
- Representative clothing i.e., R&D sport, SWSS, etc. is not permitted to be worn at school unless for representative activities and clearly stipulated
- Attire should be suitable for outside and inside activities

Clothing

- Clothing should fit neatly
- Clothing should be SunSafe (see SunSmart Policy)
- Clothing (and hats) which promote messages that may be deemed offensive shall not be worn
- Clothing must be suitable for full participation in all curriculum areas
- Under wear shall not show outside or through clothing.

Footwear

- Students should wear flat-soled and enclosed footwear, with substantial uppers to protect against falling sharp tools, equipment of project materials to meet WH&S guidelines
- Shoelaces must be secured at all times
- Canvas style shoes are NOT acceptable
- Footwear must be suitable for full participation in all curriculum areas.

Student Uniform 'Free' Days

- Students must still adhere to SunSafe and WH&S guidelines in regards to clothing, footwear, jewellery, hats, hair, make-up/nail polish, etc.

8 REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

Any student who requires a short-term or long-term modification, reasonable adjustment or exemption from the RSC dress code can request this from the Principal or Head of School by following the following process.

8a Circumstances for a reasonable adjustment or exemption from the dress code

Students and parent/caregivers may seek short-term or long-term modifications, reasonable adjustments or exemptions for individual students or groups of students from the RSC Dress Code.

Circumstances for seeking/granting variations may include:

- Religious, ethnicity or cultural practices, traditions or customs (e.g., head coverings (hijab, yarmulke, turban) or aspects of personal presentation (e.g., hair);
- gender diversity (e.g., access to gender neutral and gender diverse uniform options);
- disability (e.g., reasonable adjustments for sensory, physical or other needs such as fabric variation, sensitivities or design feature);
- pregnancy, or;
- financial hardship.

8b Processes to apply for short- or long-term modifications to, reasonable adjustments or exemptions from, the dress code

1. Students and/or parents may seek modifications or exemptions to the dress code by contacting the Head of School and/or Principal via email, face-to-face meeting, phone call, with the support of interpreter or translator or by written communication.
2. The Executive Leadership Team will consider the application and supporting information for the modification or exemption. Each case will be considered on a case-by-case application.
3. Decisions around modification/reasonable adjustment/exemption will be communicated to students and/or parents via written communication i.e. letter.
4. Decisions will be communicated discreetly to Campus staff and students will carry an exemption card alerting staff to granting of modifications or exemption.
5. A confidential centralised record of requested modifications, reasonable adjustments/exemptions will be maintained. Where patterns of modifications, reasonable adjustments and exemptions are identified over time, they should be considered in subsequent reviews of school uniform requirements.