No: 1208

# **Uniform Policy**

Approved: June 2019 Revised: 2 November 2023

#### Rationale

At WRCA our school uniform serves as a symbolic representation of our commitment to being part of a community of faith filled learners. A simple, modest, yet aesthetically pleasing uniform indicates a humility in keeping with our desire to be Christ-centered while glorifying God through the pursuit of excellence. It also permits students to actively engage in a variety of educational opportunities as we seek to provide a holistic educational experience. A uniform serves to provide continuity and connects us with our past. It is intended to be worn with pride as we seek to work together to grow in our shared understanding of our core purpose and values and communicates something of who we are to our larger community.

Pragmatically, uniforms:

#### 1. Reduce distractions

Uniforms create common ground for everyone, enabling focus on core programs rather than on what they and others are wearing.

## 2. Improve community and school spirit

Uniforms identify members of a common community, encouraging ownership and shared comradery.

#### 3. Help prevent bullying

Uniforms reduce economic and social barriers between students that often leads to bullying. In non-uniform environments students face social pressure to conform to standards of fashion. Students who are unable or unwilling to conform may be criticized, excluded or bullied.

## 4. Simplify morning routines

Students who wear a school uniform can get ready for school quickly and have time to eat breakfast and organize for a successful day. Uniforms may also serve to reduce conflict between parents and students about what constitutes appropriate school attire.

### 5. Lower clothing costs

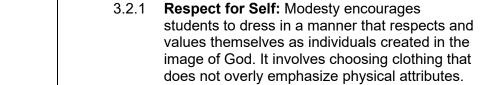
The average cost of school uniforms per child, per year, is less than buying the latest clothing trends. Uniforms reduce financial pressures on parents.

#### 6. Encourage other means of self-expression

Uniforms limit self-expression through dress, thereby encouraging self-expression through personality, conduct and achievements.

Policy Statements	Regulations
The school is responsible for establishing the school uniform.  1. The school is responsible for establishing the school uniform.	The school ensures that:         a. Descriptions of the school uniform are published on the school website and in the student/parent handbook.         b. Appropriate uniform suppliers are secured.
	<ul> <li>1.2 The basic uniform for Junior School students is comprised as follows:</li> <li>1.2.1 GIRLS: navy WRCA polo, plaid knee length WRCA tunic or knee length WRCA grey skirt, bicycle shorts under kilt or tunic, black knee-high socks or tights, all black shoes. Sockless leggings are not permitted. Formal uniform: navy WRCA polo, plaid knee length WRCA tunic, black tights, all black shoes.</li> <li>1.2.2 BOYS: navy WRCA polo, grey WRCA long pants or grey WRCA shorts, black crew socks, all black shoes.</li> </ul>
	Formal uniform: navy WRCA polo, grey WRCA pants, black crew socks, all black shoes.  1.3 The basic uniform for Senior School students is comprised as follow:  1.3.1 GIRLS: white WRCA polo, plaid knee length WRCA kilt or knee length grey WRCA skirt, bicycle shorts under kilt or skirt, black knee-high socks or black tights, all black shoes. Sockless leggings are not permitted. Formal uniform: white WRCA polo, plaid knee length WRCA kilt, WRCA navy cardigan, black tights, all black shoes. Sockless leggings are not permitted  1.3.2 BOYS: white WRCA polo, long grey pants or grey WRCA shorts, black crew socks, all black shoes. Formal uniform white WRCA polo, grey long WRCA pants, WRCA navy pullover, black crew
	socks, all black shoes.  1.4 Students may wear the following additional authorized wear with the basic uniform: WRCA navy cardigan (girls), WRCA navy pullover (boys), WRCA navy hype jacket.  1.5 During colder weather students may add a navy jacket in addition to one of the items in 1.4.  1.6 Formal uniform is required for performances, some assemblies and other days as specified by the school.

	1.7 PE uniform for all students is as follows: WRCA grey PE shirt, WRCA navy shorts or WRCA navy sweatpants, athletic shoes. WRCA navy hype jacket or WRCA navy sweatshirt is optional.
	1.8 When changes are made to the school uniform expectations, parents and students will be given up to 6 months to purchase and comply with uniform expectations.
All students are required to wear the school uniform.	2.1 Students and parents will sign and return to the school a letter stating their support of the school uniform policy at the beginning of each school year as part of a larger code of conduct agreement.
	2.2 All specified uniform items must be purchased from an approved vendor; similar items purchased from other vendors are not permitted.
	Staff will be required to conduct uniform checks as directed.
	2.4 Students not wearing the school uniform properly will be required to purchase a proper uniform item from the school store.
	<ul> <li>2.5 Additionally, students not wearing the school uniform correctly will receive the following consequences:</li> <li>a. First offence – a warning letter sent home to parents.</li> <li>b. Second offence – the student will serve a lunch time detention.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>c. Third offences – the student will serve an afterschool detention and a meeting with parents and a principal will be required.</li> <li>d. Fourth and subsequent offences – will be treated as a behaviour issue and the Discipline Policy 1201 will apply.</li> </ul>
	The school will declare some days to be non-uniform or special dress days. Students not fully participating in these days must abide by regular uniform expectations.
On days when uniforms are not required, all students will adhere to special dress code guidelines that emphasizes modesty.	<ul> <li>3.1 Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that students are dressed modestly on days when the regular school uniforms are not required.</li> <li>3.2 Dressing modestly is defined as promoting a sense of professionalism, mutual respect, and ensures that all students can learn without distraction. Dressing modestly emphasizes humility, decency, and a respectful appearance.</li> </ul>



- 3.2.2 **Respect for Others**: Modesty promotes an environment of respect and consideration for others. Students are expected to dress in a way that helps create a focus on character and inner qualities rather than outward appearance.
- 3.2.3 Alignment with Christian Values: Modesty reflects humility rather than worldly appearances. Clothing should not advertise or promote guns, alcohol, tobacco products, drugs, sex or violence.
- 3.3 Students not dressing with modesty will be expected to change their clothing at school or be sent home to change their clothing.

The school leadership team through consultation with the school staff developed this policy, and it was approved by the WRCA Board of Directors. It will be communicated to the school community and made available on the school website. The leadership team will review the policy and the WRCA Board of Directors will approve suggested revisions every two years.