



# MALANDA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

## OUR UNIFORM

Our school is a uniform school and has very high expectations in terms of student dress. The great majority of our students come to school properly dressed in the school uniform. The uniform is devised by our Parents & Citizens Association.

It is always timely to reflect in an ongoing way why a uniform is so important to our school. First, a uniform is cost-effective for parents. Having a couple of uniforms means your child is completely attired to attend school every day. There is no need for a wide range of clothes, no room for fashion trends to make those clothes out-of-date in a year or so. Uniforms are designed to wear and to last.

New students to the school are helped to settle in more quickly because they look like the rest of the student body in their uniforms. A sense of belonging is more rapidly achieved. The wearing of uniforms also helps with the detection of truancy. Any students leaving the school at unusual times are quickly detected by staff, neighbours, shopkeepers and police who ring us if they notice anything unusual.

Student's safety is enhanced by both the wearing of uniforms and "bans" on certain clothing items which students often wear outside of school. We insist on shoes that fully cover the feet to minimise tripping and to protect the feet from spillage of hot and dangerous substances or sharp implements in kitchens or workshops. Excessive jewellery is not acceptable because of possible injury in sport, physical education, lunch-time activity or around machinery.

In today's schools, protection against outsiders entering the school is a very real consideration. There are people who would like to come into our grounds during school time for the wrong reasons. Our students must always be in uniform, and legitimate visitors wear visitors' badges. Outsiders are immediately detected in a school with a high standard of uniform.

There are strong equity reasons supporting the wearing of a uniform. Regardless of family income, students look the same when they walk through the gate; there is no competition or disadvantage in terms of how they are dressed. One of our roles is to prepare the students for the world of work and so wearing a uniform and having a clean and tidy appearance is part of this preparation. Many students will work for companies or government agencies that require employees to wear a uniform.

The image of our school is enhanced when our student body is well turned out. Many parents and community members assess the quality of a school by the standard of student dress – and certainly our school always seeks to project itself as a school that is always focussed on quality structures and cultures. We at Malanda High believe that such a focus inevitably guarantees better outcomes and results for all our students.

Finally, the reasons for having a school uniform and requiring it to be worn are based on common sense. It has nothing to do with social engineering, restricting human rights or individuality. Thank you to all those parents who support us with the uniform every day – your support and co-operation are greatly appreciated.

Gary Toshach  
Principal

## Malanda SHS Dress Code

Malanda High is a 'uniform school'. The school uniform has been devised and endorsed by parents, students and teachers. The wearing of the correct school uniform is regarded very highly as it determines the perception of the school held by many members of the community and reflects school pride and discipline. All students and parents are encouraged to cooperate in ensuring that the correct school uniform is worn in the correct way.

1. The requirements of the school's Dress Code are as follows:

	<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>BOYS</b>
Tops	School Polo Shirt Undershirt (Plain Royal Blue, Red, Yellow, White)	School Polo Shirt Undershirt (Plain Royal Blue, Red, Yellow, White)
Bottoms	Royal blue skirt or shorts Royal blue track pants	Royal blue shorts Royal blue track pants
Headwear	School bucket hat or broad brimmed hat (Beanies are not considered to be an acceptable component of the uniform)	School bucket hat or broad brimmed hat

**(All of the above items except undershirts are sold at the school Tuck Shop, including the school jacket below. Jeans of any colour are not considered to be an acceptable component of the uniform.)**

Footwear	Shoes with impervious uppers and laces preferred. Ankle socks to be worn with the shoes. (No thongs, sandals, or knee high boots are permitted)
Headwear	
Winter Additions	School jacket, plain royal blue jumper, scarf (as per undershirt colours)
WPHS	In some subjects (e.g. agriculture, manual arts) leather shoes are required. This will be outlined at the time of selecting subjects at the beginning of each year/semester/term.
Additional Notes	Jackets, jumpers and shorts are to be a solid royal blue colour with no other colours, piping etc. Make up is not acceptable or appropriate in a learning institution like ours.

(a) Year 12 students are granted the privilege of wearing their Senior Polo Shirt. They also design their own winter jersey. This garment must reflect official school colours.

(b) Students who represent the school either at Regional or State level in sporting events can wear this uniform for their year of representation, plus one year (due to the significant parental cost involved). Curriculum or other officially recognised events such as School Musicals are permitted to wear their team T-shirt, jacket or track suit for the year of issue only.

2. The wearing of jewellery is not encouraged however students may wear discreet pieces of jewellery which do not pose a safety, security, health or morality issue for the school. Discrete jewellery would include a simple fine chain, ring, bangle or earrings. Students will be asked to remove excessive/inappropriate jewellery.

3. Correct footwear must be worn in all situations. If students are unable to wear the correct footwear, they must bring a note of explanation from home. They must report to the office at the beginning of the day and an appropriate programme will be arranged.

4. To minimise sun damage to skin, students are to wear adequate protective head coverings and sunscreen during sport, physical education lessons and when playing outside for extended periods. Students who wish to wear additional non-uniform protective clothing during sport, HPE and sports carnivals (ie. long sleeved shirts) are encouraged to do so.

5. If, on a particular day, students cannot wear the full correct uniform, a note from parents/guardian explaining the reason for lack of correct uniform must be presented to the Office before school and replacement clothing will be issued by the office. The student's clothing will be retained by the office and will be returned at 3pm in exchange for the borrowed uniform.

6. On Free Dress Days, students have a choice to dress in school uniform or casual clothing. However the casual clothing must be clean, safe, modest, in good condition and must not advertise inappropriate slogans, words or illustrations. All clothing including footwear must conform to the safety requirements of the school. (Refer to Free Dress Day Policy)

7. The staff of the school have been delegated the responsibility by the P & C to ensure the correct wearing of the uniform.