



GLENVALE  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

## ***UNIFORM POLICY***

It is the policy of the school that parents/ guardians make every effort to obtain the approved school uniform and to ensure that every day their children wear a correct, neat and tidy uniform at school and outside of the school grounds.

### **Why Have Uniforms?**

The school 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 enhances the school image and student pride in their school
- a uniform is a practical solution to the issues of clothing costs, fashion competitiveness and superficial individual differences. It is an economical option and reduces financial differences 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
- a uniform provides an avenue through which students learn respect for parent and teacher authority and acceptance of rules

### **1. CRITERIA ON WHICH UNIFORM SELECTION IS BASED**

GCS 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 recognized by building choices into permitted uniform. Accessories in Years Prep-6 to be restricted to those with a practical function.

### **2. COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN SCHOOL AND HOME CONCERNING UNIFORMS**

- 2.1 Where a child is temporarily out of uniform (e.g. an item is lost), parents should provide a note to the class teacher.
- 2.2 Where a longer term exemption is required (e.g. for a medical condition), a medical certificate should be provided to the class teacher.

2.3 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).

### **3. 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 GCS Board.
2. If the Board 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.
3. The Uniform Committee and/or appropriate task force will send its findings/recommendations to the Board.
4. If the Uniform Committee and/or appropriate task force decides on a change, it will send its recommendations to the Board for approval by the School Association. The Board is the final authority on changes to the uniform.
5. If approved, the Board informs the Uniform Committee and/or appropriate task force who in turn inform the Uniform Shop, teaching staff and wider school community.
6. The Board authorises changes to the school uniform documents.

### **4. FREE DRESS DAYS**

For designated Free Dress Days when students are permitted to wear casual clothes, clothing should be modest, neat and appropriate. (No shoe-string singlets or bare midribs, and T-shirts should be decent with no inappropriate statements or slogans).

### **5. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS**

Students are to be in full school uniform when travelling to and from school. If students need to be in school uniform outside of these hours, full school uniform is required. (No part uniforms are allowed)

Please be mindful that when wearing the school uniform children are representing Glenvale Christian School and in the eyes of the public are seen as our ambassadors.

#### **Only the Principal:**

- May prescribe alternative clothing to be worn for special occasions or camps, excursions.
- May excuse a student from wearing school uniform in exceptional circumstances