



Uniform and Dress Code Policy

Introduction

The Ripley Valley State Secondary College uniform has been developed in consultation with the College Community. The College uniform plays an important role in encouraging a sense of self-esteem, belonging and self-discipline amongst students, helping to prepare students for life beyond high school.

Purpose of the College Uniform

- Promotes a safe environment for learning by enabling ready identification of students and non-students at the College.
- Promotes an effective teaching and learning environment by eliminating the distraction of competition in dress and fashion at the College.
- Promotes a supportive environment at the College by fostering a sense of belonging.
- Addresses health and safety policies by ensuring appropriate footwear and sun-safe clothing.
- Fosters mutual respect among individuals at the College by minimising visible evidence of economic, class or social differences.

Uniform Expectations

All students are expected to observe the details of correct attire and must be wearing the complete College uniform in accordance with College routine and this Policy. Students should present in a neat and tidy manner at all times, including on their way to and from College. This also includes whenever a student is out in the community wearing the College uniform.

This will ensure that our students continue to represent themselves and Ripley Valley State Secondary College to maintain the high standard that our reputation and Community expects.

Ripley Valley State Secondary College and the Parents & Citizens (P&C) Association have endorsed these expectations of students with regard to uniform and personal appearance.

All uniform items (with the exception of socks, and shoes) are to be purchased from the college uniform shop.

- The House Shirt is to be worn on Wednesdays.
- Look-a-like items are not acceptable.
- Students are to purchase the appropriate size clothing.
- Jumpers, sport jackets, jerseys, hoodies and blazers, other than those with the official College logo, are not permitted to be worn.
- College uniforms are not to be altered in any fashion.
- This includes (but is not limited to):
 - Cutting and shortening of hemlines (alterations to ensure correct fitment are permitted).
 - Rolling up of up sleeves and short/trouser legs.
- Short sleeved white undershirts may be worn, but must not be visible.
- The College bucket hat or cap is the only permitted hat to be worn by students. This includes, whilst travelling to or from the College and for outdoor activities.

Year 7-9 College Uniform	
College polo shirt College unisex sport short or skort Black shoes as per guidelines on page 3 & 6 White socks with College logo or Plain white socks with no visible wording, logos or symbols College Hat or Cap College Bag with logo College House Shirt (Wednesday only)	Winter additions College knitted jumper College fleece jumper College unisex spray jacket College unisex spray pants Plain navy blue gloves College scarf Optional plain navy stockings (no patterns)

Year 10-12 College Uniform	
Style One	Style Two
College formal shirt College formal short or College formal trouser College tie Navy blue socks with College logo or Plain Navy socks with no visible wording, logos or symbols Belt – plain black- 30 mm leather or leather look with plain silver buckle to be worn with College shorts or trousers Black shoes as per guidelines on page 3 & 6 An optional College Blazer can be purchased from the Uniform Shop <u>Winter additions</u> College unisex pullover College unisex spray jacket College unisex spray pants Plain navy blue gloves College scarf	College formal blouse College formal skirt, formal short or formal trouser College short tie Black shoes as per guidelines on page 3 & 6 Navy blue socks with College logo or Plain Navy blue socks with no visible wording, logos or symbols An optional College Blazer can be purchased from the Uniform Shop Formal hat can be purchased upon request from the Uniform Shop Optional plain navy stockings (no patterns) <u>Winter additions</u> College unisex pullover College unisex spray jacket College unisex spray pants Plain navy blue gloves College scarf
<u>Everyday</u> College Cap or Hat College Bag with logo <u>House shirts</u> To be worn on Wednesdays with College sport short or skort <u>College Polo Shirt</u> May be worn whilst participating in practical activities requiring physical movement.	

College Representation

Students in years 10-12 attending excursions and extra-curricular events will be directed in the Excursion information to wear either formal uniform or College polo shirt. Students in years 7-9 must wear their correct full school uniform.

House Shirts

House shirts are to be worn every Wednesday by all students (years 7-12) and on special College events as advertised to students i.e. House Days, carnivals, special events. Students in year 7-12 are not permitted to wear the House shirt whilst representing the school in outside school events.

Senior Jersey

In Year 12 students are permitted to wear the school designed and approved senior jersey for their year. Students are unable to purchase a senior jersey if they have any outstanding school fees. The senior jersey is a non-standard uniform item and is unavailable for purchase through the uniform shop. Senior Jerseys are purchased as a special order through the college and are only available for purchase on two (2) occasions throughout the school year in Term 3 in Year 11 and Term 1 in Year 12. When ordering the senior jersey students are only permitted to have their first or last name printed on the back panel.

Footwear/ Shoes

Due to safety regulations, students are required to wear enclosed footwear that adequately protects their feet. It is also critical that shoes have arch support and good protection on the sole as well as protection for the top of the foot.

- Black leather or synthetic leather shoes are permitted.
- Shoes must be 100% black in colour.
- Ballet flats, high heels and high tops are not permitted.
- White/coloured markings are not permitted.
- Suede material, canvas and mesh are not permitted.
- All shoes must comply with the "Compliant Shoe Guide." (see page 6)
- When wearing the sports uniform students may choose to wear black lace-up jogger style or College style shoes.

Socks must be visible and at a minimum should be ankle length and no higher than 15 cm.

Hair

For safety reasons all long hair (boys & girls) is required to be tied back and secured in a style that does not fall freely on the shoulders. Radical hairstyles are discouraged and parents are requested to consider whether a particular hairstyle is appropriate for school before the child has it styled. Hair colours must be 'natural' in nature and the use of shaving or tinting to create distinct patterns or 'mo-hawks' is not acceptable. Hair accessories other than plain navy are not permitted.

Beards

Facial hair to be neatly trimmed, tidy and a natural colour. Beard nets to be worn as instructed. No beard locks or unnatural beard colouring.

Tattoos

Tattoos to be covered and/or concealed. Covering material needs to be skin, navy blue or a plain white colour, with no additional logos or symbols. It is expected students do not obtain tattoos while they are a student at the College.

Religious and Medical Guidelines

The College acknowledges that due to religious or medical reasons the required College Uniform may be unsuitable.

- Students are permitted to wear fitted plain Navy coloured coverings only.
- Adornments are not permitted.
- Hijabs and Burkas, plain navy colour accepted.

For religious and medical reasons, students are requested to submit a written application through their parent/caregiver to the Principal, requesting approval to wear the said item.

Jewellery

- Small sleepers and small studs only to be worn in ears and a limit of 2 per ear. Earrings must be subtle and no larger than 5mm in diameter.
- No facial piercings permitted (e.g. Nose studs, spikes, spacers or bars) or tongue piercings at all.
- A watch may be worn (No Smartwatch due to Technology Policy).
- One signet/ small ring per hand.
- One necklace of commonly accepted religious/cultural or medical significance. Necklace should not be visible.
- Students wearing unsuitable jewellery will be advised to remove the items. Failure to comply with this instruction or persistent disregard for uniform policy may lead to further behaviour consequences.
- Students who wish to wear commonly accepted religious or cultural artefacts/jewellery which do not comply with the above guidelines may submit a written application through their parent/caregiver to the Principal, requesting approval to wear the said item.

Bags

Students are expected to purchase and use the P&C endorsed College bag (available in 2 styles: Backpack or bag with rollers to assist with movement) with the College logo on the bag.

The sports bag is a supplementary item that is to be used for carrying additional items and not as a main school bag.

Makeup

Students must not wear any overt make-up unless approval has been granted for medical reasons. Only foundation make-up (skin tone) may be worn for sun protection. Nail polish, acrylic or gel nails, if worn, should be restricted to a clear colour and no longer than 5mm.

Students not complying with these guidelines will be required to remove the make-up/ nail polish/ acrylic or gel nails and parents will be notified.

Winter Wear Not Permitted

- Scarves – other than the College Scarf.
- Hoodies
- Beanie
- Gloves – other than plain navy blue
- Blankets – blankets or similar items

Uniform Free Days

The Principal may set aside certain days in the College calendar for a non-uniform day as a fundraiser for a charity or student council project. Students pay a gold coin donation for the privilege of wearing non-uniform. It is expected that students will wear clothing appropriate for an educational environment, adhering to workplace health and safety requirements (enclosed footwear) and refraining from wearing revealing and/or offensive garments.

Swimming

Girls: One-piece swimming costume or Sun-safe swimming two piece. Bikinis are not acceptable swimwear.

Boys: Speedos or football style shorts with no pockets or Sun-safe swimming two piece. Underwear, including boxer shorts, or long shorts are not acceptable swimwear.

Jewellery is not to be worn in the swimming pool and must be removed or taped prior to swimming.

During classes requiring significant physical movement:

Students are permitted to wear plain navy blue leggings/ tights/ lycra type shorts.

No noticeable colours, writing, major logos, stitching or panelling.

Must be of suitable length.

Students must be changed during the lesson – on and off in the one lesson.

Students involved in extra-curricular physical activities prior to and after College must change into their normal College uniform (formal uniform for year 10-12 students) after the activity.

Students in years 10-12 involved in practical activities may change into their College polo shirt and unisex sports shorts or skort at the start of the lesson/activity and wear the College polo shirt for the duration of the lesson. However, these students must ensure that they change back into their formal uniform before the end of that lesson/activity.

College Uniform Procedures

Students unable to wear an item of the correct uniform must comply with the following procedures:

- Report to the Student Reception (A Block) before 8.45 am.
- Provide a note from home explaining the uniform breach and the period for which this will exist. These may be accepted for specified and temporary reasons, but are not long-term waivers of the uniform expectations.
- Where possible, exchange the incorrect uniform article for the correct uniform. The student's own article of clothing will be held until the exchanged article is returned after the end of the school day.
- Where the uniform item is unavailable, and the student's dress is deemed appropriate, the student will be issued with a slip indicating that they have followed procedures.
- Students unable to wear an item of the correct uniform that attend class without first attending the Student Reception (A Block) will be sent by their classroom teacher to the Student Reception (A Block).

Consequences for Non-Compliance with the Dress Code

Consequences for students not in correct uniform can include contact home to parents, prevention from participating in school activities, or detention. Non-compliance will be dealt with in accordance with the Ripley Valley Student State Secondary College Student Code of Conduct.

Initially, students will be immediately asked to remove items that are not part of the Ripley Valley State Secondary College uniform. The item will be retained by the college for collection by the student at the end of the day.

Any further offences will mean the item will be confiscated and parents will be required to collect the item from the college. All unclaimed items will be disposed of, or donated to charity, by week 4 of the following term.

If a student does not comply with the College dress code policy, the Principal, or delegated officer, may impose one of the following consequences:

- Student may be issued with a detention(s)
- Student removed from attending or participating in any activity for which the student would have been representing the college;
- Student removed from attending or participating in, any college activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the Principal or delegate, is not part of the essential educational program of the school.

All decisions on the appropriateness of uniform, footwear, hair, jewellery, bags, make-up etc are at the Principal's discretion.

Resolving Uniform Issues

Parents should contact the relevant school representative to discuss the options available if there are specific cultural, ethno- religious, gender, health or physical needs that are impacting the student's ability to wear the stipulated school uniform.

Continued non-compliance with the uniform requirements will result in a meeting with the relevant school representative to resolve the issue. Unresolved uniform noncompliance issues will be referred to Administration.

An interpreter or support person can be arranged if required to attend a meeting with the principal or his/her delegate.

Financial Hardship

- Second hand uniform items are available for purchase from the College P&C Association subject to availability.
- The College can provide a range of solutions to assist families in financial hardship. These include payment plans, and other approaches that can be negotiated on a case by case basis. Parents are encouraged to contact the school's Business Manager who can assist you with this matter.
- The Uniform Shop operates a Lay-By payment system and parents/carers are encouraged to use this service.

Relevant Legislation and Policy

The College Dress Code is endorsed by the Ripley Valley State Secondary College P & C Association.

- *Anti-Discrimination Act* 1991 (Qld) Chapter 2, Part 1-3, Part 4 Division 3-4, Part 4 Division 10, Part 5
- *Disability Discrimination Act* 1992 (Cwlth) Part 1, Part 2 Division 2, Part 2 Division 5 Education (*General Provisions*) Act 2006 (Qld) Chapter 12, Part 9 ss.360-363
- *Racial Discrimination Act* 1975 (Cwlth) Part II s.9 • *Sex Discrimination Act* 1984 (Cwlth) Part I, Part II Division 2, Part II Division 4
- *Work Health and Safety Act* 2011 (Qld)

Uniform Policy Compliant Shoe Guide

Acceptable Shoes	Unacceptable Shoes
 ✓	 ✗ Not all black, mesh material
 ✓	 ✗ Open top
 ✓	 ✗ High tops