INTRODUCTION
The pursuit to a healthy sense of well-being at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School includes the presentation of our students in appropriate and safe standards of dress. All students who attend St Mary’s Parish School must wear the approved school uniform. The wearing of our school uniform is a consequence of the acceptance of enrolment at St Mary’s Catholic Primary School. Our school’s uniform policy has been created under the Workplace Health and Safety Guidelines and the Anti-Discrimination Act.

Compulsory enforcement of our uniform policy enables consistency in dress standards throughout the school and is a way of identifying students who are part of the St Mary’s community and is common to all students.

Our uniform is attractive, easy to care for and wear; it helps encourage school spirit, negates peer group pressure and gives the children a sense of belonging to our school. The uniform also provides a measure of security when students are on excursions.

Realising that a period of transition is fair and reasonable, St Mary’s will enforce:
1. **2016 prep grade one students effectively wearing the new prescribed uniform from the commencement of their school year through to graduation in grade 6**
2. **Existing students from grade 2-5 (2016) may continue wearing current uniform (status quo) until the Winter 2016 season, from which date, all prep – grade 5 students attending St Mary’s school will be required to wear the newly refined and prescribed uniform.**
3. **2016 grade 6 students will be exempt from any changes and should maintain status quo.**

OBJECTIVES
The objective of the Uniform and Presentation Policy is to ensure that:
- There is an established code for acceptable and compulsory school wear
- The uniform is:
  - practical and smart
  - identifies the children with the School
  - makes children feel equal to other children in terms of appearance
  - is designed to be suitable wear and affordable for the school community
  - is designed with health and safety in mind

POLICY AIMS
The aims of the St. Mary’s Uniform and Presentation Policy are to promote:
- a sense of pride in the School
- a sense of community and belonging towards the School
- presentation pride equality

VALUES
Responsibility, Equality, Equity

RATIONALE
School uniform is compulsory for students attending St Mary’s Parish School, Williamstown. This is a policy matter that parents and students agree to support by virtue of enrolment.

A properly worn uniform:
- Will enhance the school image and student pride in the School
- Is an indicator of a good school tone
- Is a means of student identification with the School community
- Provides a strong representation of the school at interschool and broader community events
• Allows the wider community to identify our students
• Diminishes clothing costs, fashion competitiveness and superficial individual differences
• Provides one avenue through which students may learn respect for parental and teacher authority in our community. Uniform is one expression of the School’s legitimate boundaries, designed to teach students to be well presented and respect the partnership with parents

POLICY - General
1. St Mary’s Parish School has a policy on School Uniform, making it compulsory for all children to wear our school uniform to school, or when participating in School-organised events outside of school grounds or school hours
2. In keeping with the Christian values of the school community, the school uniform will at all times be respectful, preserve the dignity of the individual child and reflect the spirit of the school
3. It is expected that student uniforms are clean, neat, tidy, worn in good repair and reflects pride in personal appearance and supports compulsory standards
4. Students will be expected to wear the uniform as prescribed and refrain from mixing uniform items across seasons/purposes
5. Departure from wearing the prescribed uniform for a day or for a short period of time must be accompanied by a note from parents/guardians, or if for a prolonged period of time, approved by the principal.
6. Staff members shall conduct a daily check of uniform standards; and
   a. A uniform note will be sent home should there be any digression from the school’s dress code
   b. In the event that a child receives 3 consecutive teacher notes in a term, a meeting shall be arranged with the principal
7. “Cargo-style” pants, leggings, jeans, track pants, sporting pants, sporting shorts and netball skirts are not acceptable school wear
8. All articles of clothing, hats and personal belonging should be clearly and permanently marked with the child’s name (not initials).
9. All children must wear a school hat in Terms 1 and 4, in line with the school’s SUNSMART policy.
10. The school will recognise individual situations where physical disability exists and may accommodate those in accordance with individual needs
11. The school will show compassion where serious financial difficulty exists and may assist in the accommodation of compulsory school wear acquisition.

Responsibilities
1. St Marys shall ensure that:
   a. new families are notified of the uniform and presentation compulsory requirements at the time of orientation of the child
   b. the school uniform and presentation policy is implemented fairly and sensitively
   c. it maintains contracts with uniform supplier/s to ensure that the uniform provided:
      i. is affordable
      ii. is acceptable in quality
      iii. meets all occupation health and safety requirements
   d. St Mary’s shall collaborate with staff and students of the school to maintain an acceptable standard of uniform and presentation
   e. School photos will be scheduled for the winter season
2. Parents/Care Givers of students at St Mary’s Primary School have a responsibility and obligation to:
   a. support the uniform and presentation policy
   b. send their child/ren to school every day in the compulsory and prescribed uniform and ensure that it is clean, neat, in good repair and labelled with the child’s name
   c. provide appropriate notification to the school in circumstances where their child does not present at school with the standard uniform
   d. raise any concerns regarding the school uniform directly to the Principal
   e. ensure that the prescribed compulsory uniform is worn on the day of annual school photographs

3. If any parent or guardian is unable to strictly follow the School Uniform Policy for any reason (e.g. for financial reasons), they should speak to the Principal who will work collaboratively with the family to ensure that an equitable uniform solution is provided.

Transitional management to New School Uniform
1. St Marys shall ensure that it liaises with the uniform supplier to ensure that:
   a. Only the newly prescribed uniform is available for students commencing Grade prep from 2015 onwards for purchase
   b. Communication is effective with students, parents and teacher to stringently enforce the uniform requirements and the policy
   c. A transitional uniform period, between the commencement of 2015 up to the winter season of 2016, is provided for existing students (grade 2-6, 2016) whereby student uniforms will remain status quo. During this period students may continue to wear:
      i. Monogrammed navy blue Bomber jackets
      ii. Monogrammed navy blue windcheaters
      iii. Sky blue long and short sleeve polo tops
   d. That the transitional period and acceptable school attire is communicated effectively via the school newsletter and the schoolbag application

2. Parents and caretakers of St Mary’s shall ensure that:
   a. Where they have students commencing prep from 2015, only the newly prescribed uniform is worn to school daily
   b. They work with their child/children to ensure that the correct uniform is worn at all times
   c. Support the school in enforcing a smart, clean and neat school uniform
   d. Support the requirements of the transitional period for students in the first term of 2016 for grades 2-5
   e. All students, **excluding 2016 grade 6 students**, Transition to the newly prescribed uniform from the Winter 2016 season, and specifically replace all 1/ Monogrammed navy blue bomber jackets, 2/ Monogrammed navy blue windcheaters, 3/ Sky blue long and short sleeved polo tops or 4/ non monogrammed woollen jumpers and 5/ tracksuit bottoms with:
      i. Navy Blue Monogrammed Woollen jumpers
      ii. Sky blue long and short sleeved shirts
      iii. Monogrammed navy blue rain jacket (optional)
      iv. Monogrammed navy blue / yellow tracksuit.
### Compulsory and Prescribed Seasonal School Wear (2015 and onwards Intake Students [all students from winter 2016 and excluding 2016 grade 6 students])

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Girls (prep intake 2015 and all other student from Winter 2016)</th>
<th>Boys (prep intake 2015 and all other student from Winter 2016)</th>
<th>Sport – All Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer</strong></td>
<td><strong>COMPULSORY</strong>&lt;br&gt;• School dress&lt;br&gt;• Monogrammed V-neck knit jumper&lt;br&gt;• Light Blue socks&lt;br&gt;• Black Shoes&lt;br&gt;• Summer Hat&lt;br&gt;• School Bag</td>
<td><strong>COMPULSORY</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Navy blue drill shorts&lt;br&gt;• Monogrammed light blue collared short sleeved shirt&lt;br&gt;• Monogrammed V-neck knit jumper&lt;br&gt;• Navy/Yellow striped school socks&lt;br&gt;• Black school shoes&lt;br&gt;• Summer Hat&lt;br&gt;• School Bag</td>
<td>• Monogrammed yellow short sleeve &amp; collared top&lt;br&gt;• Sports shorts / skort&lt;br&gt;• Monogrammed blue / yellow tracksuit (long track pants and matching sports jacket)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Prescribed and Compulsory School Wear purchasing sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Available from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Girls (prep-6)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• School dress  OR/</td>
<td>• Navy blue tunic/Slacks</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(grade 6 optional)</td>
<td>• Navy drill skirt together with collared light blue collared short-sleeve monogrammed shirt</td>
<td>• Monogrammed V-Neck knit jumper</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monogrammed V-neck knit jumper</td>
<td>• Monogrammed light blue Collared long sleeve shirt</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Light Blue socks</td>
<td>• Navy blue tights</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier/Any stockist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Black Shoes</td>
<td>• Black shoes</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier/Any stockist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Summer Hat</td>
<td>• Rugby Jumper</td>
<td>Any Stockist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Rugby Jumper</td>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boys (prep-6)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(grade 6 optional)</td>
<td>• Navy blue shorts</td>
<td>• Navy blue double knee trousers / Shorts</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monogrammed blue short sleeved shirt</td>
<td>• Monogrammed blue long sleeve shirt</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monogrammed V-neck knit jumper</td>
<td>• Monogrammed V-Neck knit jumper</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Summer Hat</td>
<td>• Navy/Yellow striped school socks</td>
<td>School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Navy/Yellow striped school socks</td>
<td>• Black school shoes</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Black school shoes</td>
<td>• Rugby Jumper</td>
<td>Any Stockist</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Rugby Jumper</td>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sports (all students)</strong></td>
<td>• Monogrammed yellow short sleeve &amp; collared Top</td>
<td>• Monogrammed yellow long Sleeve and Collared Top</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monogrammed blue / yellow tracksuit (track shorts/navy skort and jacket)</td>
<td>• Monogrammed blue / yellow tracksuit (long track pants and jacket)</td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• White Sports Socks</td>
<td>• White Sports Socks</td>
<td>Any Stockist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Runners</td>
<td>• Runners</td>
<td>Any Stockist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outdoor wear - all students (optional)</strong></td>
<td>Navy School Monogrammed Rain jacket</td>
<td></td>
<td>Uniform Supplier</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Sensitivities and Management of Skin conditions
1. In recognising that some children are affected by skin conditions such as contact dermatitis, eczema, itchy skin, temperature control and sweat, the school shall highly recommend:
   a. the thin lining of garments with either cotton, bamboo cotton or silk as a barrier to synthetic fabric or wool, in line with the Eczema Organisation counsel, at the expense of the parent/guardian
   b. wearing a spencer or singlet under the light blue monogrammed shirt to provide an additional barrier to the skin
   c. wearing the Navy School Monogrammed rain jacket (which has been lined at the parents discretion or unlined) over the light blue shirt
   d. any combination of the above

Jewellery
1. On health and safety grounds, jewellery is not permitted at school. The exceptions to this rule are:
   a. a pair of plain ear studs in pierced ears, or
   b. a watch when your child is able to tell the time
2. Children should be encouraged to either remove these personal items during PE and games to prevent them from causing injury
3. Personal items such as earrings or watches are the responsibility of the child.

Footwear
1. All children should wear black shoes at School and when travelling to and from School on all school days except for sports days as designated by the school at the start of every school year
2. Permitted and compulsory black shoes include:
   a. Lace up or Velcro school shoes for boys
   b. Velcro school shoes / Scamper school shoes for girls
3. In the event that a child attends school with the incorrect footwear, the school shall issue a “notice to the parents for correct footwear” that shall be signed and returned to the school the next day, and
   a. In the event that a child receives 3 consecutive footwear notices in a term, a meeting shall be arranged with the principal

Hair
1. On health and safety grounds, the following guidelines are provided to ensure a sensible approach to hair, grooming and maintenance.
   a. Girls that have hair longer than collar length should ensure that it is tied back simply and neatly in navy blue or accessories approved and sold through the school office only.
   b. Boys should ensure that their hair is maintained neatly, out of eyes and above collar length at all times.
2. Cult hairstyles (e.g. Mohican, Punk, Mullet, dyed hair) are not permitted.
3. Hair must be clean, brushed and kept off the face – this includes fringes out of the eyes. Hair must be completely tied back if it is longer than the collar with a plain navy blue scrunchy, ribbon or headband.
4. Parents are asked to regularly check their child/children’s hair to prevent lice infestation.

Nails & Makeup
1. Nails are to be kept short and nail varnish is not permitted.
2. Similarly, makeup is not permitted at the school at any time.
Personal Hygiene
1. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that adequate personal hygiene knowledge and practices are instilled in all school age children, including but not limited to:
   a. hand washing
   b. face washing, especially after eating
   c. blowing and wiping their noses
   d. use of deodorant, especially in higher year levels
   e. menstruation management,
2. and the school shall, where required, support students with such hygiene practices

School Bag
School books and school work should be carried to and from School in the approved St Mary’s school bag.

Swimming Cap
The monogrammed St Mary’s school swimming cap should be worn at all school and interschool swimming sports/carnivals and can be purchased from the school office.

School Hats
1. Sun protective hats are included in our school uniform or dress code and sports uniform as outlined in the Sun Smart Policy for terms 1 and 4.
2. Students and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (i.e. broad brimmed or bucket hats), whenever they are outside
3. The school shall take all reasonable attempts to provide:
   a. guidance to the uniform supplier to ensure that uniforms are loose fitting, light and breathable and
   b. standard hats for purchase through the school office that meet the policy criteria.

Changes to the School Uniform and Presentation Policy
If any parent or guardian would like the School to change the School Uniform Policy, they should speak to the Principal who shall raise issues with the schools Advisory Board.

Where to purchase the School Uniform
1. Most items of our School Uniform (e.g., items with the School crest) can be purchased only through the School via the Uniform Supplier
   a. The order form for these items is available from the School Office and it is also on the School website
2. All other items (e.g., shoes, some socks, girls leggings, smocks) can be purchased from any stockist
3. Second-hand items of School Uniform may be purchased from the School second-hand pop-up shop (please check with the School Office for location and opening times of the Second-hand pop-up shop).

Monitoring and review
1. The school monitors and reviews the School Uniform Policy by:
   a. Seeking the views of the community, parents and guardians and the School Advisory Board
   b. Considering repeat requests from parents or guardians to change the School Uniform Policy
   c. Considering, with the Principal, any requests from parents or guardians for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to School Uniform
   d. Asking the Principal to report to the Governing Body on the way the School Uniform Policy is implemented.

Related School Policies
Sun Smart Policy & Parents as Partners in Catholic Education