



OAK FLATS HIGH SCHOOL

OAK FLATS HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

1. Policy link

The Oak Flats High School Uniform Policy has been developed to assist the school in implementing the NSW Department of Education Uniform Policy.

The Uniform Policy and the suite of uniform options have been developed following the guidelines set out in the NSW Department of Education Uniform Policy and Guidelines. Both the Uniform Policy and the range of uniform items have been developed in consultation with and endorsed by the Oak Flats High School Parents and Citizens Association and the Oak Flats High School Student Representative Council.

2. Rationale

The wearing of school uniform by students helps build self-confidence and a sense of connection with their community. It ensures there is no discrimination between students based on the clothes they can afford. It also supports a safe school environment where non-students can be easily identified.

We ask all our students to wear their uniform with pride and dignity and strongly understand that untidy dress or misbehaviour whilst dressed in the school uniform brings discredit to the school, themselves and family. All students are required to wear the correct school uniform every day.

The Oak Flats High School Uniform Policy aims to:

1. promote equality amongst all students.
2. ensure quality safety standards
3. further develop a sense of pride in, and identification with our school.
4. provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment.
5. maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community.

3. The colours of our uniform

Our school colours of green, black and white are a reflection of the natural environment surrounding Oak Flats High School. Green is the colour of the foliage on the casuarina (sheoak) trees that line the Lake Illawarra foreshore; it symbolises growth and renewal. Black and white can be seen in the indigenous birdlife – magpies, willie wagtails, magpie larks, pelicans, swans and currawongs – that inhabit our local area.

Our students wear these colours in their uniform as they forge strong links between the heritage of our local community and their place to learn and grow within our school. They are a constant reminder of the personal growth that each student will strive to achieve throughout their journey of education at Oak Flats High School.

4. Students out of uniform

If a student is unable to wear an item of uniform on any particular day then they must report to the Student Administration Area before 8.25am. The student will be given a uniform from the school's clothing pool to wear for the day.

Continued refusal to wear uniform will be considered disobedience. If students continue to breach the Uniform Policy the following consequences may apply:

1. Warning regarding uniform expectations. Detention during Break 1 or 2 for 15 minutes. Phone call to parents.
2. After 3 warnings students will receive an after school detention.
3. Further infractions will be considered continued disobedience and more serious disciplinary action may be taken.

5. Uniform Sales

School uniforms can be purchased through our official supplier, Lowes at Shellharbour Square, or through the Lowes website.

If items of clothing being sold as our uniform through other sellers are purchased, students risk being in breach of the Uniform Policy. Uniform items should only be purchased through Lowes, who have a contract with the school.

As part of our contract with Lowes, they supply the school with clothing vouchers to support families in need, and prizes for our end of year awards.

6. Clothing Pool

Students in genuine need of assistance with uniform may obtain items of clean, pre-loved clothing free of charge by seeing our School Office. Donations of outgrown items of uniform are most gratefully accepted throughout the year.

In cases where the clothing pool cannot provide the necessary assistance, a Uniform Assistance Form can be completed to request financial support. All applications are confidential.

The clothing pool will also be used to ensure the wearing on uniform within school hours.

7. Oak Flats High School Uniform Options

The wearing of uniform applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when students are on school excursions (unless otherwise stated in the excursion information).

Students have a range of formal and informal uniform options and may choose any combination of the options listed below.

Standard Items

- Green/black/white polo top with logo on left side (Years 7-9)
- White polo with logo on left side (Years 10-12)
- White button-through blouse with logo on left side
- White button through shirt with logo on left pocket
- School tie (optional)

Additional items for cooler days

- Black track pants with OFHS initials
- Black tailored pants
- Black stockings (with dress or skirt)
- Black shell jacket with zip front and logo on left side
- Black fleecy jacket with green stripe cuff and bottom band, front pockets, zip front and logo on left side
- Black blazer with logo on left pocket

- Oak Flats tartan dress with white collar, tie and sleeve cuff
 - Oak Flats tartan pleated shirt
 - Black stretch shorts with one zip pocket – available in two lengths
 - Black tailored shorts
 - Black or white plain socks
 - Year 11 and Year 12 official senior jersey/jacket for that year group
- Note: Students without an official school jacket may wear a plain black jacket/jumper and plain black track pants with no markings at all, and will not be considered to be out of uniform.

Sport Uniform

- Sport shirt – polo top with sublimated logo in green and white
- Black sports shorts with OFHS initials

Shoes

- Black enclosed shoes must be worn for safety reasons. Students without appropriate footwear may be excluded from practical lessons in all courses.

Hats

- Students are encouraged to wear a cap/hat when outdoors for sun protection. Students may also wish to wear a beanie in the winter.
- Any headwear must not have offensive words/slogans or drug references.
- All headwear must be removed when inside school buildings

All items are available from our contracted uniform supplier, Lowes at Shellharbour Square.

8. Other Uniform Considerations

- Jewellery must be kept to a minimum and be unobtrusive
- A plain white short sleeve t-shirt may be worn under the school shirt
- Shirts must be buttoned to a socially acceptable height
- No torn or ripped clothing should be worn to school
- Plain means without patterns, stripes, slogans of any kind
- In cold/wet weather any non-uniform jacket or track pants worn must be plain black
- Long sleeve t-shirts, jumpers and hoodies must not be worn under school shirts
- Hooded jumpers or jackets are not part of our school uniform and must not be worn on school grounds
- AIME or representative sport jumpers are not part of our school uniform and can only be worn when attending AIME or representative sport events off the school site
- Tights/leggings, jeans and shorter style shorts are not part of our school uniform and must not be worn on school grounds

9. Review

This Uniform Policy will be reviewed as part of the school's regular review cycle.

This Uniform Policy was last ratified by P&C and SRC in November 2019. The next review will occur in Term 3 2021.