



MARICOURT
SIXTH FORM
CENTRE

SIXTH FORM DRESS CODE POLICY

Mission Statement

Our Maricourt family, with Christ at the centre, is a community of welcome, compassion and respect in which we are encouraged to discover our true purpose and empowered to achieve the extraordinary so as to be the change we want to see in our world.

INSPIRE
WITH
MARICOURT

DATE REVIEWED: Sept 2022
SCHEDULED REVIEW: Sept 2025

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Rationale

At Maricourt we are constantly striving to raise the standards of our young people to ensure that they are a responsible and valued member of the school and wider community. The Maricourt is a key part of our identity and we have always been proud of how smart our students look in school. We enforce this uniform policy because smart standards of uniform are related to good behaviour and high standards of achievement. It also helps to reduce bullying and takes pressure off families to buy fashion items for school. We therefore expect that students will not only wear the correct uniform, but also wear it properly at all times, on the way to and from school and during the school day.

Maricourt Catholic High School believes that a consistent dress code policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all students, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all students, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and students' families.

We believe that students learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

Roles and responsibilities

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that students dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Disciplining students who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that students understand why having a consistent and practical dress code is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct dress code as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Senior Leadership Team if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Students are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Senior Leadership Team has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a dress code is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

The guidelines for dress and appearance cover seven main areas

Dress code

The dress code aims to promote a working environment and as such students should be in sixth form dressed as if in a professional working environment. The following is a list of acceptable items:

Male students

- Trousers: black formal trousers
- Shirt: White short/long sleeved shirt
- Tie: black tie
- Jumper: black v neck (optional)
- Footwear: all black, smart footwear

Female students

- Skirt: Black skirt / trousers (skirt should be of reasonable length and appropriate for moving around the building and working comfortably).
- Shirt: White short/long sleeved shirt
- Jumper: V neck black jumper or cardigan (optional)
- Footwear: all black, smart footwear

Items that do not fit the dress code

- Shorts or skorts
- Hoodies (Should be removed inside the building if worn as a jacket)
- Sportswear
- Non discrete facial piercings
- Visible tattoos
- Unnatural hair colours
- Hats indoors

Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all students are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are. The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any students by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles. The school will ensure that parents and students are consulted over any changes to school uniform.

SEND/Sensory Needs

The Senior Leadership Team are open to discussion regarding sensory needs and certain uniform items.

Religious/Cultural Traditions

Henna/Mehndi Tattoos are not allowed in school. However, it is understood that in some cultures or religious traditions, it might be considered as part of family celebrations such as Eid or weddings. If a student wishes to have henna/mehndi applied, parents must write to the Progress Leader for permission at least a week prior to the event, to explain the rationale behind the request. The school's decision is final. Headscarves are permitted, but must look conventional and understated. They should either be tucked in or the material should not hang below 4 inches, so not to obscure the uniform. They must be black, dark grey, maroon or dark blue with small pins or clips of the same colour. There must be no embellishments.

Procedures for incorrect uniform or non-compliance

It is understandable that on rare occasions there may be an issue with uniform, such as it becoming damaged or misplaced. On these occasions, the following process will be followed:

Step 1: The form tutor will speak with the student to ascertain the reason for non-compliance. A negative award on Class Charts system.

Step 2: After the first occurrence, the pastoral staff will speak with the student about continued non-compliance. A second negative award on Class Charts system.

Step 3: Should a third non compliance occur then a further negative award will be made and parent / carer will be contacted by email.

In the event that the non-compliance is an emergency or considered to be valid by pastoral staff, no negative awards will be made and the student will have five school days to organise replacements / solve the issue.