



Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School

Dress Code Policy

Roll Number 68308L
Swords Enterprise Park
Feltrim Road, Drinan, Swords, Co Dublin

K67 W9Y8

Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School Policy Document

Approved by BOM: 23 rd January 2023

Mission statement

Malahide Portmarnock Educate Together Secondary School is committed to an inclusive student-centred educational experience based on collaboration, cooperation and creation. We strive to create a community of academic excellence which is welcoming, democratic, diverse and safe. Our vision is for students to become independent lifelong learners, who reach their full potential and become active members of society. In MPETSS we work to develop empathy and an understanding of difference in our ever-changing world.

COMMUNITY – COLLABORATION – CREATION

Introduction

Students are not required to wear a uniform in MPETSS. We encourage diversity and self-expression; however, a dress code is part of the personal education of students. With the support of parents and guardians, students are expected to dress in a manner which encourages, and values individuality and self-expression yet also promotes respect.

The Dress Code Policy helps the school community to work together to promote the school's unique ethos and achieve a happy, effective, and safe school environment that encourages good behaviour and optimizes learning.

This Dress Code Policy also applies while on school outings, sporting events and trips and works in conjunction with the Positive Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, SPHE and RSE policies, (currently being drafted).

Clothes, accessories, shoes and make up worn to school should be appropriate and safe for school. Students will be encouraged to develop an awareness of what is appropriate and safe to wear in a school setting.

For example: Jewelry when worn, should not pose health and safety issues in practical classes and should not interfere with teaching and learning.

A positive, proactive approach will be taken towards implementing this policy in a fair, reasonable, and consistent manner.

This policy has been discussed and developed in consultation with the whole school community.

As for all policies, this policy will be up for review after two years.

Clothes

- Clothes worn to school must be clean, in good order, modest and appropriate for daily school life.
- There should be no offensive slogans or pictures on clothing/bags etc.
- Underwear should not be visible and clothing not transparent.
- Torn, ripped and very tight clothing are not appropriate.
- Footwear should be flat or with small heels only, it must be appropriate and not pose a safety hazard.
- Shorts, if worn, must come to mid thigh.
- If wearing tight fitting shorts, they must worn with a long loose top.
- If wearing a tight top, this must be worn with loose bottoms.
- No tight outfits, suitable for gym workouts are to be worn in school.
- Skirts and dresses should be of mid-thigh length and suitable for school. Shorts must be worn underneath, if exposure of underwear is a possibility.
- Low-cut tops and tops that expose the midriff are not allowed as part of the dress code.
- Outdoor coats are not be worn in class. Only light tracksuit jackets or hoodies are acceptable..
- Not hats or hoods are permitted to be up in class, with the exception of the following; (It is accepted by the school community that some students, due to sensory issues, may need to wear a hoodie up, or a hat **in class**. This is permitted, **for these students only**, however, full faces must be visible to staff).
- Hoodies or hats, are not to be worn around the school, going to and from classes or in the community space (unless by these students, mentioned above, who have permission).

Jewellery

- Jewelry should be appropriate to daily school life.
- Large, hooped earrings or earrings that are very long are a health and safety issue in practical classes and on crowded corridors and should not be worn.
- Visible body piercings, other than reasonably- sized earrings and nose studs are not permitted. (Nose or eyebrow rings and tongue piercings are not permitted).

Hair Styles

- A pupils' eyes should not be covered a hair style.
- Hair dye is permitted.

Facial hair

- Beards & moustaches are permitted.

Make-up

- While make-up is allowed in school it should be applied in moderation.
- Nail varnish is permitted.
- Nail extensions are not permitted, they pose a Health & Safety issue.

Monitoring the Policy, Review and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually. Teachers, Parents/Guardians, Students and the Board of Management will be involved in the review of this policy.

Clothing specific to some classes

Some classes will require specific clothing. Students are expected to wear their aprons for Home Economics and Technology and the lab coats for science in order to protect their everyday clothing. It is expected that students will comply with Health and Safety regulations when working with equipment and tools. This may entail the wearing of protective gear, tying back loose hair, tucking in loose fitting clothing, removing jewellery etc.

PE and Sporting Activities

It is expected that sportswear and trainers/runners will be worn for sporting activities and PE. It is expected that no jewellery other than a sports watch will be worn to adhere to Health and Safety measures.

Football shorts and sports shorts are permitted for these activities. However, must be changed for normal classes.

Students must have appropriate sports footwear which do not cause scuff marks on the hall floors.