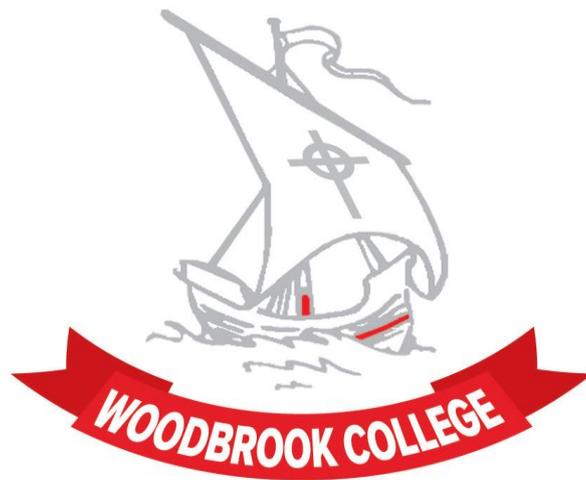


# Woodbrook College Bray, Co. Wicklow



## Dress Code Policy for students

*"Learning together for a better future"*

Approved by the Board of Management at a meeting held on

29<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 Woodbrook College has a catholic tradition reflecting the values of the Edmund Rice Schools Trust (ERST) Charter.
- 1.2 Woodbrook College considers itself a pluralist community; it embraces inclusion in terms of social, cultural, religious and ethnic diversity.
- 1.3 Woodbrook College is a co-educational school with a broad curriculum, which aims to meet the diverse range of academic, vocational, spiritual and social needs of its students.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Woodbrook College believes that it is important to ensure that everyone is familiar with the Dress Code policy to ensure that there can be no confusion when dealing with dress code. It is essential that the uniform is worn with pride as it signifies a belonging to a special community, one that should be respected.
- 2.2 The aims of this policy are:
  - To give clarity to all regarding the acceptable level that uniforms in Woodbrook College will take.
  - Detailing the acceptable position on a number of areas such as hair styles, makeup and the wearing of jewellery.
  - To allow fairness and consistency regarding the appearance of those that represent our community.
  - To ensure that the entire school community are mindful of health and safety requirements and common sense.
- 2.3 This policy has been created in consultation with the Student Council, the Parent Council, and the staff. We believe that school and classroom rules work best when they are: developed through consultation with students, parents/guardians, and staff [National Education Welfare Board: Developing a Code of Behaviour: Guidelines for Schools, p.37]. As stated in 2.2 above, our aim is to ensure that this dress code is seen as fair and consistent to all students.

## 3. SCHOOL UNIFORM

- 3.1 **Uniform for boys and girls in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year.** The uniform must be worn at all times unless permission is given by a member of staff to the contrary.
  - White shirt or Revere blouse
  - Black trousers or Black/Red/Grey Plaid skirt. Girls who wear skirts must ensure that they are below knee length.
  - Grey V-neck jumper with crest
  - School tie for boys
  - Black leather/leather effect shoes, no runners allowed (please see pictures below for clarity)
  - Grey socks, knee length for girls who wear skirts.
  - A school jacket is available from our supplier but is not mandatory
- 3.2 **Uniform for boys and girls in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year.** The uniform must be worn at all times unless permission is given by a member of staff to the contrary.
  - White shirt or Revere blouse
  - Black trousers or Black/Red/Grey Plaid skirt. Girls who wear skirts must ensure that they are below knee length.
  - Black V-neck jumper with crest
  - School tie for boys
  - Black leather/leather effect shoes, no runners allowed (please see pictures below for clarity)
  - Grey socks, knee length for girls who wear skirts.
  - A school jacket is available from our supplier but is not mandatory



### 3.3 Physical Education kit.

- The college PE t-shirt is compulsory for all years and should be worn during PE only
- Plain black shorts, black tracksuit bottom or black leggings
- Runners that are suitable for sport. These are only worn during PE and not during normal school time.
- Boots will be required for outdoor activities
- A gum shield is mandatory for specific sports such as rugby and Gaelic games
- A full tracksuit is available from our supplier but is not mandatory

### 3.4 Wearing of coats, hats and offensive material

- The wearing of hats and hoods in the school can impinge on students' interpersonal communication with peers and teachers. Therefore, with the exception on medical grounds, all hats and hoods must be removed.
- Self-expression must not violate the rights of others; therefore, clothing that carries statements of hate or offense are not permitted.
- All clothing is expected to comply with general health and safety standards.
- The wearing of coats, jackets and hoodies is not permitted on the school premises.

### 3.5 General rules

- When students are representing the school at matches, they are required to wear the official school gear.
- It is the policy of the school that students must wear the official uniform to and from school and for official school events.
- It is recommended that parents/guardians label their child's clothing to allow for ease of identification and avoid confusion.
- It is expected that general hygiene rules apply and that uniforms are clean and maintained.
- If a student needs to wear something outside of this policy, then a note from a medical practitioner is required.
- The school uniform official supplier is on the school's website and in the school journal.
- Failure to bring PE gear without a valid note will result in a sanction as PE is an integral part of the curriculum and Wellbeing vision for the school.

## 4. OTHER ELEMENTS OF STUDENT APPEARANCE

- 4.1 **Jewellery:** Boys and girls are permitted to wear one small stud earring in each ear lobe. No facial jewellery or tongue piercings are permitted. Necklaces and other styles of earrings such as large hoops or long earrings are not permitted on health and safety grounds.
- 4.2 **Make-up:** Junior school students are not permitted to wear makeup of any kind. Senior students may wear light, natural make-up. However, no heavy eyeliner or bright shades of either eye shadow or lipstick are permitted. No fake tan is to be worn at any time. False eyelashes must not be worn to school on health and safety grounds.
- 4.3 **Nails:** Clear or natural coloured nail varnish is acceptable. No false nails are to be worn to school as they can pose a health and safety risk.

- 4.4 **Hair:** Hair should be clean, neat and tidy at all times. Hair longer than shoulder length should be tied back while in school. Natural colour dyed hair is permitted. No extreme hairstyles such as Mohicans, dreadlocks or skull patterns are allowed.

## **5. SANCTIONS**

- 5.1 The acceptability or otherwise of any difficulty regarding uniform, jewellery, make-up, nails, fake tan or hairstyle, rests ultimately at the discretion of the school Principal or Deputy Principal. The parents/guardians of pupils who breach the policy will be contacted with a view to taking the student home to rectify the difficulty. If necessary, and as a last resort, the student will be suspended on a rolling basis as per 3.7 of the Suspension and Expulsion Policy.
- 5.2 Staff can issue students with uniform breach demerits as per the Relationship and Behaviour policy.