

# Uniforms at school checklist

## ✓ Procedure checklist

**Consultation:** should include the following groups:

- Students
- Teachers and other staff
- Parents/carers  
(including school Parent & Citizens Association and local AECG)
- Suppliers and retailers.

**Wellbeing:** factors to be considered:

- The diversity of the school population  
(options are available within the agreed school uniform)
- Uniform items encourage physical activity
- Allow for the right of choice and gender expression, and include the option of pants and shorts
- Items are affordable, comfortable for all body shapes and appropriate for a variety of learning activities
- Appropriate, fair and consistent responses for students not following school uniform requirements.

**Health & Safety:** factors to be considered:

- Sun safe uniform items, including hats that protect the head, neck and ears
- Uniform items necessary for particular activities, e.g. safe footwear
- Availability of uniform items for cold and hot weather
- Road safety/visibility of uniforms.

**Supply and purchase:** factors to be considered:

- Families are well informed about uniform items necessary for health and safety reasons
- Affordability of uniform items
- Families are aware of available financial support to purchase uniform items if required
- Clothing pool established and promoted for donations and access to low cost or loan uniform items
- Procurement and Legal Services' advice regarding:
  - a nominated preferred supplier and/or
  - the establishment of a uniform shop to be run by an external organisation
- Location and opening hours of preferred suppliers/on-site uniform shops provide reasonable opportunities for families to purchase uniform items
- Supplier and retailer's details, including location and opening hours, are available on the school website and other school communication channels.

## 📄 Procedure information

Each school's uniform must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and other staff and parents/carers).

Parents/carers must be given sufficient time to purchase items and schools may need to give parents/carers up to three years where there have been changes.

All suppliers and retailers must also be notified and given sufficient time to change the school uniform.

The Department of Education requires that schools set local school uniform requirements.

A school's response to a student not wearing school uniform should be appropriate, fair and consistent.

A student cannot be suspended or expelled for not wearing school uniform.

Schools should positively encourage the wearing of a school uniform.

Principals can develop processes to grant short or long-term modifications to, or reasonable adjustments or exemptions from, the school uniform on a case-by-case basis.

Decisions about school uniform requirements must comply with [Work health and safety Act 2011 \(NSW\)](#) and [Anti-discrimination Act 1977 \(NSW\)](#).

A school uniform should promote the health and safety of students by identifying items necessary for particular activities to protect students from injury (for example, items for sun protection or safe footwear).

[Footwear Guidelines for NSW Government Schools](#)

Schools must have written agreements in place to set out the terms and conditions of a 'uniform shop' and 'supply arrangements'.

Schools must comply with procurement requirements to have an on-site uniform shop operated by any party, other than a Parents & Citizens Association.

Schools must advise parents on how they can access financial support if they are unable to purchase uniform items.

To assist families, schools should organise facilities such as clothing pools.

For further information contact the [Student Health Team](mailto:Student.Health@det.nsw.edu.au) at [Student.Health@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Student.Health@det.nsw.edu.au).

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)