

# Dress Code and Personal Presentation Policy

## Rationale

At Fortitude Valley State Secondary College our vision is '**To create a community of agile learners who are bold, resilient and kind**'. By instilling an expectation that all school members will look after themselves, each other and our place of learning, we will enable our vision and values to flourish, creating an orderly learning environment and a sustainable culture of excellence and innovation.

The Fortitude Valley State Secondary College Dress Code and Personal Presentation Policy:

- establishes a welcoming culture of school pride, a positive learning environment and high expectations;
- promotes a positive image within the community with an identifiable uniform that is smart, tidy and worn appropriately;
- addresses health and safety policies by ensuring students are wearing appropriate footwear and sun safe clothing;
- promotes the shared belief that we are part of something special and great, and by furthering social equality among students the uniform diminishes socioeconomic differences, reducing peer pressure associated with expensive 'brand' clothing;
- improves student safety by enabling staff to identify people within the school grounds who are not associated with the school.

Under the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 section 360, a Principal may develop a dress code to apply when students are attending or representing the school. As per the Act, this dress code outlines the acceptable standard of clothing to be worn by students and personal presentation. The Fortitude Valley State Secondary College Dress Code and Personal Presentation Policy reflects the community expectations and standards as determined by the Principal in consultation with school community representatives.

## Dress Code and Personal Presentation Expectations

The Fortitude Valley State Secondary College formal uniform is to be worn daily to and from school and all school activities, including excursions (unless otherwise specified), school photos, and other functions at which students are representing the school in our community. Uniforms are not to be altered in any fashion and are to be worn as per the FVSSC Uniform Style Book. This includes (but is not limited to) rolling up of sleeves, shorts legs and/or skirt waistbands. Mixing formal and sport uniform items is not acceptable, each uniform is to be worn in its entirety.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 may travel to and from school in their sports uniform only on Tuesdays. Senior students (Year 10, 11 & 12) are required to travel to school in their formal uniform on all days and are expected to change into their sports uniform once at school if required for a specific lesson/activity as per their timetabled classes.

Students are responsible for ensuring they change their uniform in their own time before the required lesson and change back into their formal uniform to travel home at the end of the school day.

### Contact

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(07) 3016 8888  
fortitudevalleyssc.eq.edu.au

### Address

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Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

### Post

PO Box 605  
Fortitude Valley QLD 4006

All uniform items (with the exception of shoes) are to be purchased from Wearitto (in person or online). Appropriate footwear can be purchased at any shoe retailer.

## Shoes

### Formal Uniform Shoes

Black lace-up leather standard school shoes (including black laces and stitching).

These are available via external providers, or the “Vortex” style shoe (picture below) can be purchased via Wearitto.



*Example of black lace-up leather standard school shoe.*

### Sports Uniform Shoes

Joggers with laces and non-marking sole.



*Example of sports uniform joggers with laces and non-marking sole.*



*Example of “Vortex” style shoe which can be purchased via Wearitto.*

## Cultural or religious modifications

The college understands and accepts that some cultures and religions have specific dress requirements. Visible modifications or additions to the Dress Code and Personal Presentation Policy that comply with recognised cultural or religious values must be negotiated with the Principal or relevant Deputy Principal.

## Jewellery

All acceptable items of jewellery are listed below:

- One flat ring;
- Two (2) pairs of plain studs or sleepers worn in the earlobe;
- One watch – Please note: there will be times when smart watches are not appropriate and cannot be worn (eg exams, NAPLAN). During these times, students will be asked to leave their device at home or to hand it into the school administration.

- Studs no more than 5mm in diameter



- Sleepers no more than 10mm in diameter



## **Hair**

- Hairstyles (including facial hair) must be neat, clean, tidy and well-maintained.
- All long hair (as defined by touching the shoulders) must be tied back by hair ribbons or hair bands in any of the school's colours only.
- Extreme hairstyles or significant variations in hair length (including but not limited to mohawks, shaved sections, tracks, dreadlocks and rat's tails) are not acceptable.
- Natural toning only is permitted. Unnatural hair colours are not acceptable.

## **Make-up and Nails**

- Discreet sun factor make up may be worn as part of the Sun Safety in Secondary Schools guidelines.
- Eyeliner, eye shadow, mascara, lipstick/lip-gloss and all other make-up are not permitted.
- Only natural lashes are permitted.
- Only clear nail polish on natural nails is permitted.

## **Tattoos**

- Visible tattoos or body art are not permitted.

## **Noncompliance with Dress Code and Personal Presentation Policy**

*It is at the discretion of the Principal or relevant Deputy Principal to determine whether hair, make-up or jewellery comply with the Dress Code and Personal Presentation Policy.*

As per the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* Section 362 (1), if a student of a State school does not comply with Dress Code policy for the school's students, developed under Section 360, the school's Principal may only impose one of the following sanctions (Section 276);

- (a) detention of the student;
- (b) prevention of the student attending, or participating in, any activity for which the student would have been representing the school;
- (c) prevention of the student from attending, or participating in, any school activity that, in the reasonable opinion of the school's Principal, is not part of the essential educational program of the school.

## **Noncompliance Procedure**

Students unable to wear an item of the correct uniform must comply with the following procedures:

- Provide correspondence to the Principal or relevant Deputy Principal from home explaining the circumstances and the period for which this will exist.
  - If approved:
    - The student will provide to staff (upon request) the issued notification indicating that they have followed procedures;
  - If not substantiated:
    - The student will be issued with one of the sanctions as outlined above in the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* Section 362.
    - The student will provide to staff (upon request) the issued notification indicating that they have followed procedures.