O’Sullivan Beach School Uniform Policy.

PURPOSE:
Students attending O’Sullivan Beach School wear clothing that allows them to:

- Participate safely and easily in all areas of the curriculum and
- Identify themselves as members of our school community

RATIONALE:
Wearing of school uniform enables students to:

- Develop a strong sense of identity as members of our school community
- Minimise the likelihood of undue pressure from friends and others impacting on students’ choice of clothing
- Concentrate on learning instead of being distracted by what is ‘in’ fashion
- Reduces pressure on families to provide popular (and often expensive) brands of clothing
- Enables students to get dressed with minimal fuss in mornings and
- Ensures that children are safe throughout the school day as staff can easily identify O’Sullivan Beach School students from intruders and outsiders

Wearing of school uniform enhances school pride and the positive image of O’Sullivan Beach School.
The staff, Governing Council and sub committees actively encourage the wearing of uniform.

GUIDELINES:
1. CLOTHING
The school uniform will consist of:
   - Navy blue polo top with a collar and school logo
   - Navy blue windcheater with school logo
   - Navy blue or black pants/track pants
   - Navy blue/black knee length shorts
   - Navy blue/black knee length skirts/shorts
   - Navy blue and white checked school dresses
- Large logs and brand names are not acceptable
- It is expected that school clothing will adequately cover sensitive areas of the body to protect the skin from damage (eg strapless, sleeveless and shoe string tops are not to be worn)
- Families are welcome to purchase clothing of school colours from other retail outlets
- The dress code applies during school hours and when students are on excursions

2. HATS
- Students are required to wear a school approved hat when engaging in outdoor activities all year around
- School approved hats are legionnaire and broad brimmed in navy blue. No other hats, caps or beanies may be worn at school.

3. SHOES
- Shoes must be appropriate for involvement in physical activity. Closed in shoes are preferable. Slip on shoes, wedge heels and high heels must not be worn as they present a safety risk.
4. COSMETICS AND JEWELLERY
- Cosmetics, including nail polish may not be worn by students at school
- Body piercings, large ear-rings and chains are not to be worn. (sleepers and studs may be worn in ears)
- Watches and SOS jewellery are permitted

5. UNSUITABLE CLOTHING
Certain items of clothing are unsuitable for school because they are unsafe or they prevent students from participating fully in class and yard activities. These include:
Group 1.
- Short tops which leave the midriff bare
- Tank tops (both girls and boys)
These items of clothing expose the child to the risk of sunburn and give inadequate protection when climbing or playing.
Group 2.
- Dangling earrings and loose jewellery
These present danger of injury during play and particularly on climbing equipment.
Group 3.
- Thongs, fashion boots, slip on shoes, high heel shoes
- Tight pants and skirts
- Long dresses
In the course of a normal day, primary students are expected to run, jump, climb, sit, lie down etc. This type of clothing restricts their movements and prevents full participation in class and play activities.
Group 4: Fashion clothing
When children wear ‘fashion clothing’ to school, others can feel peer pressure to follow suit. This can place undue pressure on parents to but these items of clothing so their children can keep up with the ‘trendsetters’. If parents choose not to buy these clothes or simply can’t afford to, children can become very upset. In the interests of equity, children and parents ought not to be placed in a position of feeling inadequate or ‘different’. Examples of this type of clothing include:
- Army gear
- Board shorts
- Bike pants
- Clothes bearing large print (especially of an offensive nature) or advertising material
- Denim jeans
- Natural hair colour only at school
Flaxmill School is committed to ensuring the health and safety of staff, students and visitors at this worksite.

To achieve this we have put into practice the wearing of -

- appropriate school uniform and discourage the of wearing brand names
- hats throughout the year
- appropriate clothing ie shirts with sleeves in and long enough to ensure skin is not exposed to the sun
- sunscreen whilst students are outside
- appropriate footwear.

The Principals will enforce the Dress Code at Flaxmill on the behalf of the School Council, and may take appropriate disciplinary action in relation to wilful breach of this Dress Code. This action will not include suspension, exclusion or denying the student participation in school activities. It may involve verbal warnings, discussion with parents, extra duties and detention. However, it is preferable that positive reinforcement occurs.

Parents should notify the school in writing of any short term request for a child not being in appropriate dress code.

**Exemptions**

Students may be exempted from the Dress Code upon written request to the Principal’s from the parents. Grounds on which parents may request exemption are –

- religious, cultural or ethnic
- financial hardship, or
- genuine medical or family sickness.

The overall school colours are navy, sky blue and white.

**Boys:**
- Navy - trousers, jeans (plain blue denim only), track or parachute pants or shorts
- Navy or sky blue -jumpers, sweatshirts or hooded sweatshirts
- Navy, sky blue or white - polo and/or T-shirts

**Girls:**
- Navy – slacks, jeans (plain blue denim only), track or parachute pants or shorts
- Navy or sky blue -jumpers, sweatshirts or hooded sweatshirts
- Navy, sky blue or white - polo and/or T-shirts
- Navy – skirts, culottes, pinafore or tunic
- Blue and white check dresses

**Sportswear** -

**Boys:**
- Navy – shorts
- Navy, sky blue or white – polo and/or T-shirts

**Girls:**
- Navy - netball skirts with matching briefs or shorts, pinafores and/or skirts in Winter
- Navy, sky blue or white – polo and/or T-shirts
- Navy legionnaire and/or wide brimmed hats must be worn throughout the year.

Many of the items listed above are available from the School’s Uniform Shop.

**All garments must be clearly marked with your child/ren’s name**