

# Southern Cross Early Childhood School



Southern Cross Early Childhood School is committed to the provision of a safe environment for all children, staff and community members.

The wearing of school clothing by students can assist school communities in:

- Defining an identity for the school within its community
- Developing students' sense of belonging to the school community
- Providing an opportunity to build school spirit
- Enhancing the health and safety of students when involved in school activities
- Promoting a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity
- Reinforcing the perception of the school as an ordered and safe environment
- Increasing the personal safety of students and staff by allowing easier recognition of visitors and potential intruders in the school
- Promoting positive community perceptions of public education
- Making school clothing more affordable for families by eliminating the risk of peer pressure to wear changing fashions and expensive clothes

Dress Standard and Uniforms in  
Canberra Public Schools Guideline

## Dress Standards Policy

*The Southern Cross Early Childhood School Board endorses the wearing of school clothing as it helps to instil a sense of belonging in our children.*

### Rationale

At Southern Cross Early Childhood School the children from preschool to year two are involved in a wide range of hands-on, play-based learning experiences. Therefore our school clothing includes items that are affordable, comfortable, made from easy-care and easy wear fabrics, appropriate for activity and suitable for all body shapes.

### Colours

Children at Southern Cross Early Childhood School are encouraged to wear the school colours of **bright blue** and **bright orange**. The colours have been specifically selected due to their high visibility and distinctiveness.



### Shoes

Children are required to wear appropriate footwear. Suitable shoes have an enclosed toe and heel. These include sneakers, leather shoes or boots. Sandals may be worn in the summer; however, they need to be enclosed to enable active and safe play. Thongs, rubber clogs and open-backed sandals can result in injuries and are discouraged.

### Excursions

In the interest of child safety, families are strongly encouraged to ensure their children wear school clothes when they participate in an excursion. The school colours allow the children to 'stand out' and make them easily distinguishable as belonging to Southern Cross Early Childhood School.

### The following items are NOT to be worn:

- Sleeveless tops or singlets
- Clothing that promotes drugs, offensive language, violence, racism, or sexism.

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## Dress Standards Procedures

### School Clothing Options

The P&C manages the provision of school clothing through an external provider, Workin' Gear Schools. They sell the school's unique orange and bright blue school clothes, including hats, collared t-shirts and jumpers. The P&C strives to ensure both new and second-hand items are available at very competitive prices. Refer to the school's website for the link to purchase online or visit the store in person at 51 Kembla Street, Fyshwick.

### Pants, Shorts, Skirts

These are not part of the school uniform and families may choose jeans, cargo shorts, skirts, skorts or shorts for their children. Colours in dark grey or navy are suggested. Children are encouraged to wear clothes that will not impede their physical activity and learning.

### Label Clothing

Please ensure all removable clothing – and for young children this really means everything – is clearly labelled with the owner's name. If using a marker please ensure it is laundry proof.

## Related Documents

This policy and procedure are to be read in conjunction with

- Dress Standards and Uniforms in Canberra Public Schools Policy
- Dress Standards and Uniforms in Canberra Public Schools Procedure
- Dress Standard and Uniforms in Canberra Public Schools Guidelines (ACT Government Education 2016)
- Sun (UV) Protection for Students Policy

### HOW TO ORDER

School clothing can also be purchased online via the link provided on the school's website.

[https://www.scecs.act.edu.au/our\\_school/school\\_clothes](https://www.scecs.act.edu.au/our_school/school_clothes)

The P&C runs a second-hand clothing pool where good quality second-hand items are available for a fraction of the cost of new items – please contact the P&C Volunteer School Clothing Coordinator at [scecsclothingpool@gmail.com](mailto:scecsclothingpool@gmail.com)

The P&C School Clothing Coordinator can be contacted via email at [scecsclothing@gmail.com](mailto:scecsclothing@gmail.com)

A small display of school clothing is available for inspection in the school.



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