

BALLARAT HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY FAQ

Why have changes been made to the previous policy ?

The school's Uniform policy is reviewed each year by School Council to ensure it meets the needs of our school community and is compliant with Department of Education requirements.

In 2023 we undertook a feedback process with students, parents and staff in regards to the current policy. It was pleasing that so many people took the time to provide feedback and all feedback was considered by the School Council Policy subcommittee who then recommended changes to the full School Council – which were adopted.



While School Council considered seriously the feedback around self expression and individuality, the key factor in decision making was ensuring that our uniform policy supported a safe environment at all times for students.

What changes have been made ?

A number of changes have been made:

- Changes to shirt tucking in – shirts now only need to be tucked in for formal events (i.e school photos; assemblies etc)
- No tattoos are permitted
- Religious headwear needs to be in school colours (navy blue or bottle green)
- Now includes rules around special occasion gear (i.e hoodies)
- New sun safety section
- Exemption process – there is now a formal process if you feel you should be exempt from some aspect of the uniform policy.

The biggest change is in the area of **Jewellery** – below is the full text about jewellery with some explanation

In order to ensure safety in classes and in the school yard the following guidelines must be followed:	
POLICY TEXT	EXPLANATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with pierced ears are permitted to wear studs (no bigger than 5mm) or sleepers (no bigger than 14mm) 	<p>These sizes need to be followed – below are some pictures that illustrate the maximum sizes</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are permitted one nose stud (no bigger than 3mm). 	<p>This size requirement needs to be followed – this picture shows the maximum 3mm size</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other piercings are permitted. 	<p>One nose and ear piercings are the only piercings allowed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necklaces should be worn under clothing and should not be long. This is especially important in practical classes for safety reasons. 	<p>Necklaces were previously not permitted – this recognises that students can wear necklaces but they need to be worn safely.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If requested for safety reasons in classes, items must be removed. 	<p>This is very important – if a staff member requests that you remove a piece of jewellery for safety reasons (it won't be the nose stud or allowed earrings)- you must do so. Failure to do so will mean you are breaching the uniform policy,</p>