

7 December 2020

**Dear Parents and Guardians**

### **2021 Penola Catholic College Uniform**

2021 is the first year of our NEW Penola Uniform. At Penola Catholic College, following the charism of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, we aim to create an environment where learning is the key focus at all times. We strive to develop collaborative capable learners who are able to achieve 'personal best' educational outcomes. An integral part of this focus on learning is the expectations we have of our students to be the best people they can be for themselves, their family, the College and the wider community.

We trust that your child has had a great year of learning in our first year as Penola Catholic College. As Penola Catholic College moves into the exciting new uniform for **Year 7 and Year 10**, we would like to restate the Penola uniform standards that enable all students to experience a strong sense of pride, belonging and connectedness in their College. The uniform standards apply for the Penola uniform and the McCarthy uniform (which may be worn over the next two years). Years 8, 9, 11 and 12 in 2021 have the option of wearing either the Penola or the McCarthy uniform in 2021

Our uniform is a visible sign to the community that clearly demonstrates our high expectations and pride. It is a significant visual representation of our values, standards and beliefs that are promoted to the broader community. We look forward to witnessing our students wearing the uniform with great pride, particularly when representing the College at community events.

#### **The Penola Uniform Expectations:**

- All uniform items are to be worn in a clean, neat and tidy manner at all times including to and from school.
- The College blazer is to be worn to and from school in Terms 2 and 3 as the outer garment. A College jumper can be worn under the blazer as a layer of warmth. If it is a cold day, any other undergarments are not to be visible under the uniform.
- Students are welcome to also wear the Blazer in Terms 1 and 4
- **SPORT UNIFORM IS ONLY TO BE WORN ON A THURSDAY.** Items of the sports uniform **must not be worn with the normal College uniform.** (However, the College jumper can be worn under the College sports jacket if they are affected by the cold in winter.)
- Students representing the school are expected to wear either the full College uniform or the PE uniform for sport representatives, or events
- The Penola College scarf is the only scarf to be worn.

#### **Hair**

Hair is to be clean, neat and tidy. This is a WHS requirement for safety in schools. Extreme hairstyles are not part of our uniform as we do not follow fashion styles. The College reserves the right to have a student modify their hair if it does not meet the College uniform expectations and standards as outlined in the College diary.

- Number 2 or more clipper cut only is permitted for short styles for both young men and young women
- No colour differences/variations within the style. Hair must be of consistent natural hair colours. If dyed a natural colour, this style has to be maintained with roots to be in the same ONE natural colour.

#### **Girls Hair**

- Girls in Year 7 to 10 with hair that is longer than collar length must be tied in a bun or ponytail.
- Girls in Year 11 and 12 can wear their hair out but must have the hair accessories to be able to tie all the hair up in practical subjects, such as PDHPE, TAS and Science or whenever deemed necessary by their teacher for safety reasons.

**Walking in the footsteps of Saint Mary MacKillop**

### **Boys Hair**

- Boys in **Year 7 to 10** are to have short, clean and neat hair styles that do not touch the upper collar. Boys do not have the option of tying their hair up or back in Junior year groups.
- Facial hair is not permitted in Years 7 to 10 and students must be clean shaven at all times.
- Boys in **Years 11 and 12** may have facial hair that is neatly groomed and hair longer than collar length must be tied back neatly.

### **Jewellery (7-12)**

- **LOWER Earlobe piercing can only have ONE small set of silver or gold round stud earrings in the lower earlobe.** Piercings in other parts of the ears is not allowed. Gemstones in studs, shapes other than a round stud, sleepers/hoops and ear spacers are also not permitted.
- **No visible body piercings:** facial, nose and tongue piercings are not to be worn to school at any time.
- Keeping a 'fresh' piercing open will not be accepted as an excuse. This means that 'clear' studs are **NOT** to be worn as these are visible.
- **One** simple/discrete gold or silver chain around the neck with an appropriate religious symbol may be worn.
- **One plain ring** and **wristwatch** may be worn.
- For safety reasons, all jewellery should be removed for sport, PDHPE or practical subjects to ensure workplace health and safety requirements are met. The College does not take responsibility for the loss of jewellery if worn to school.

### **Makeup (7-10)**

- Makeup is not to be worn to school in Years 7 to 10.
- Eyelash extensions should not be worn by students.

### **Makeup (11-12)**

- Makeup may only be worn by Year 11 or 12 students if applied in a light and natural manner.
- Eyelash extensions should not be worn by any students.

### **Fingernails (7-10)**

- Short, natural nails with only clear polish is permitted. No artificial nails are permitted.

### **Fingernails (11-12)**

- Natural nails with length appropriate to satisfy WHS responsibilities for their course of studies and activities. Neutral polish (pale natural pink, nude or clear) are permitted. Artificial nails are not permitted for WHS Safety reasons.

### **School Bag**

- School bags are purchased from LOWES and they are compulsory for ALL Students. A McCarthy school bag is permitted for students who have worn the McCarthy uniform at some stage as they progressed through the school. The College bag should last a child 6 years. The Penola school bag should be purchased by our new incoming Year 7 students, as well as new students commencing at the College.

### **Shoes and Socks**

- For safety reasons, shoes must be black, polished, hard leather, lace-up and closed-in school shoes for health and safety reasons (TAS and Science). **This is a WHS requirement.** Students are not permitted to wear soft leather casual, sports or skater shoes at Penola Catholic College with their everyday College uniform.
- Athletic style running shoes are the only sports shoes that can be worn with the College PE uniform. Canvas style casual shoes are not to be worn for health and safety reasons for PE or Sport.
- Penola uniform socks (grey/blue stripe) can be purchased only through LOWES.
- McCarthy uniform socks – Plain white ankle style socks.

### **Dress Code for Girls:**

- The skirt must be worn at the knee or longer. Parents/Guardians are asked to support their daughter(s) to maintain the appropriate length at their knee or longer as they grow taller by adjusting the hem down.
- Girls in Year 7 and in Year 10 are required to wear **EITHER** the Penola Catholic College white with grey and blue stripe socks (only) **OR** stockings (Navy Blue 70 Denier).

**Dress Code for Girls Continued:**

- Girls in other year groups wearing the McCarthy Catholic College uniform are required to wear either white socks (without stripes or logos and at least 5 cm above the ankle) **OR** stockings (Navy Blue 70 Denier) depending on their choice with the weather throughout the year.
- Hair accessories are to be in school colours - Navy blue or white only for new Penola Catholic College Uniform and Navy Blue or white for the McCarthy Catholic College Uniform.
- Jumper: Navy blue V-neck school jumper with Penola logo (Year 7 and Year 10) **OR** McCarthy jumper with crest for other years.

**Dress Code for Boys**

- Boys in Year 7 and in Year 10 are required to wear Penola Catholic College grey long school pants with Penola logo purchased from LOWES and worn with plain grey dress socks. Boys in Years 8 and 9 are required to wear the McCarthy blue pants with plain blue dress socks. Year 11 and 12 are to wear the grey McCarthy pants.
- Boys in Year 7 (Blue) and Year 10 (White) are to wear the Penola short-sleeved shirt. Students in other years have the option of wearing either Penola or McCarthy.
- SUMMER: The shirt can be worn out or tucked in. If tucked in, the College tie should be worn.
- WINTER: Appropriate College shirt with tie  
Blazer must be the outer garment to and from school and in Homeroom.
- BELT: Compulsory black leather belt is to be worn with the boys long pants or shorts for all years.
- Shorts: (optional in summer with grey socks)
- Jumper: Navy blue V-neck school jumper with College logo
- Sport uniform: Boys in Year 7 and in Year 10 are required to wear only the Penola Catholic College white socks with grey and blue stripe. Boys in other years are to wear the McCarthy Sport uniform with white socks (without stripes or logos and at least 5 cm above the ankle and therefore foldable).

If your child is unable to wear the correct uniform (e.g. damaged or lost. etc) we ask that your child brings a note signed by a parent requesting consideration for the day in which they present to school with the issue. The note should explain the reason and outline the solution to rectifying the problem (e.g. My son does not have a black belt today and he will be wearing the correct uniform tomorrow.) The note must be presented to the Stage Leader of Learning before school or during homeroom for approval. The Stage Leader of Learning will sign the note if the request is approved. We appreciate your support in following this process to ensure students feel a strong sense of pride, belonging and connectedness to their College.

Any parent who wishes to discuss a need for a possible variation to the uniform will need to write to Mrs Cairns and arrange an appointment to discuss this further.

Mrs T Cairns  
Principal Leader

Mr Martin Stein  
Leader of Student Wellbeing and Learning)

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**Parent/Guardian and Student Statement**  
**Please return via the College Office**

Please sign below to acknowledge your understanding of the new standards we are adopting at school.

A copy has been included for you to keep at home for quick reference. Please ensure you sign the document and then have your child return it to the Homeroom teacher by Friday 11 December 2020

- We have read the **2021 Penola Catholic College Uniform** document and understand the uniform standards that have been implemented to commence in 2021.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_