



## SCHOOL UNIFORM

### Why We Wear Uniform

Kotara High School places great emphasis on the promotion and encouragement of wearing our school uniform. Departmental Policy states *“school uniforms foster pride in the school, assist in the development and maintenance of tone and good conduct, and reduce to a minimum distinctions because of clothing between children in the same school”*. The wearing of our uniform is important as it serves to identify the students of Kotara High School and foster respect and responsibility.

**The wearing of school uniform by all students is mandatory.** Parents/Guardians can assist by providing the correct uniform and ensuring their child cooperates in this matter. *It is important to consider the reasons why the school community has chosen to have a uniform.*

- People judge one another by their appearance. It can shape expectations, influence reactions, often inaccurately. The wearing of a uniform helps to ensure that people are not misjudged as individuals and learners.
- Without a uniform, many students would compete in fashion stakes which can be a costly exercise. The winners would be those who could afford it. This would divide our school.
- By wearing a uniform we identify as one group. Without it there would be splinter groups based on clothing styles.
- Uniforms help us make our school safe. We can easily identify people who should not be in the school and who place students at risk. We can also identify you if you need assistance. Your uniform says ‘You are from Kotara High!’
- We all enjoy and take pride in being part of a successful team. The community supports us in wearing our school uniform, showing we are proud of our achievements and the benefits of being part of our team.
- Most work places have dress codes or uniforms these days. A visit to local businesses, banks, corporations and even supermarkets and shops will highlight this. Therefore, our school Policy reflects the workplace. It helps promote self discipline and understanding of the importance of neatness in personal appearance.
- Sporting teams have uniforms and team members and supporters take great pride in the way they are ‘turned out’.
- School uniform reinforces that school is about learning and we believe assists students to establish that mindset.

### Community

The school community fully supports a policy and set of procedures to ensure that all students comply with uniform requirements. In accepting an offer to enrol at this school, all students acknowledge their commitment to meet school expectations regarding the wearing of the school uniform. Should a student be out of uniform, a detention is given and parents are informed. Persistent failure to comply will lead to further sanctions and parent contact.

However, students who are not able to be in full uniform due to exceptional circumstances must present a note (written by parents or caregivers) stating the reasons for not being in uniform on that day.

We are proud of our school and school uniform, and have high expectations of our students wearing our uniform in its entirety and with pride.

Our uniforms can be purchased at Lowes, Westfield Kotara. Please refer to the uniform policy - shoes for our details on acceptable shoes and sport shoes. The Athletes Foot may also assist you with the correct footwear for our school.

### **ACCEPTABLE UNIFORM**

<b>GIRLS</b>	<b>BOYS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tartan Skirt</li> <li>• Tailored black trousers or jeans</li> <li>• Black school shorts</li> <li>• White blouse (school crest)</li> <li>• White polo (school crest)</li> <li>• Plain black jumper, cardigan or sweatshirt (school crest only)</li> <li>• Winter jacket (school crest)</li> <li>• White OR black socks (visible)</li> <li>• Black stockings or tights (only under skirts)</li> <li>• All black shoes with black laces or fully enclosed toe box and strap (solid upper and sole)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tailored black trousers or jeans</li> <li>• Black school shorts</li> <li>• White shirt (school crest)</li> <li>• White polo (school crest)</li> <li>• Plain black jumper, cardigan or sweatshirt (school crest only)</li> <li>• Winter jacket (school crest)</li> <li>• White OR black socks (visible)</li> <li>• All black shoes with black laces (solid upper and sole)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sport/PD/H/PE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black KHS sports shorts</li> <li>• White KHS sports shirt</li> <li>• White OR black socks (visible)</li> <li>• Black track pants</li> <li>• Supportive sport shoe with laces</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sport/PD/H/PE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black KHS sports shorts</li> <li>• White KHS sports shirt</li> <li>• White OR black socks (visible)</li> <li>• Black track pants</li> <li>• Supportive sport shoe with laces</li> </ul>

**Additional information about acceptable school shoes is available on the school website.**

## ADDITIONAL UNIFORM DETAILS

- Staff are required to record students out of uniform on the roll during period 1 each day
- To make a clear delineation between uniforms students must wear either the sports uniform OR the school uniform. Mix and match is not acceptable.
- The school polo (polo with the school crest) is not sports uniform.
- The sports shorts (shorts with KHS logo) is not school uniform.
- Solid shoes for school shoes are an important WHS issue. Firm uppers are to be worn. Firm uppers are leather or similar (they could be heavy vinyl or suede for example)
- Boots are not shoes. (A boot has been determined as any shoe wear that is above the ankle)
- Students who represent the school at State level may wear the special T-shirts as part of school uniform.
- Plain white or plain black socks are preferred.
- Black tights are only to be worn under the school skirt
- Slip on Shoes are not allowed to be worn
- No canvass shoes are allowed to be worn as sports shoes or school shoes.
- Jewellery - avoid excessive jewellery. Students will be asked to remove items deemed to be inappropriate.
- Green Tie with School Crest/Badge
- Sandals/Thongs are not permitted at school **AT ANYTIME** by the Department of School Education due to safety concerns.
- Brand names on any item of uniform are not permitted.
- T-shirts under shirts must be plain white. Long sleeve Tees over short sleeve shirts are not permitted.
- Special requirements for certain sports as nominated by sport teacher - to be worn only at sport.
- Wearing of hats at sport and in the playground is encouraged, however wearing of head scarves / hats are **not permitted** in classrooms except for religious reasons.

## PRACTICAL SUBJECTS

All TAS, Science and all other classes (other than PDHPE) with a practical component require students to wear covered footwear to protect the foot from sharps and spills. Students may change into appropriate footwear for class if the shoe they are wearing on that day does not comply. Failure to have appropriate footwear may see students excluded from practical lessons.

## AVAILABILITY OF UNIFORMS

**Uniforms** - Boys and Girls Uniforms are available at Lowes, Westfield Kotara.

**Uniform Pool** – The school does operate a limited school uniform pool

**Uniform Assistance** - Students experiencing difficulty in obtaining uniform should contact the Principal or the Administration Office.