



## **Uniform Policy**

### **School Context**

Mount Gambier High School (MGHS) is a proud public school: we are a comprehensive, coeducational, multicultural year 7 to 12 school in South Australia's largest regional city and are part of the Blue Lake Partnership. Our school has approximately 750 students. Our school is committed to providing relevant and individualised learning programs for students, aligned with both the expectations of the Australian Curriculum and Entrepreneurial thinking to achieve academic success. Our Mission, Vision and Values reflect a commitment to global understandings, entrepreneurial mindedness and intercultural understandings to create a rich learning environment.

### **School Vision**

Mount Gambier High School students practise skills and gain confidence to successfully face the challenges of an ever-changing world in an environment that values a sense of learning, innovation and agile thinking.

### **Mission Statement**

Our staff are purposeful, engaging and inclusive. Our students participate with effort and pride and our community celebrates diversity and thrives on collaboration.

### **School Values**

**Learning:** being part of a safe, supportive environment where we learn and work, and where positive relationships foster the opportunity to be heard and valued.

**Belonging:** through innovation, collaboration and curiosity, meaningful connections are made between the learning and the world around us.

**Responsibility:** for actions, for learning and for the impact this has on self and others.

### **Purpose**

All students wear full school uniform. It promotes pride in presentation, supports equity principles and allows staff to provide care to students who are immediately recognisable as Mount Gambier High School students. This decision has been ratified by the Governing Council.

### **Preface**

Mount Gambier High School uniforms are provided by Lowes Australia and are available for purchase through the Mount Gambier store (located in the Marketplace shopping centre). Lowes Australia offer a number of incentives to both parents/caregivers and the school including:

- As a family-owned business, Lowes is part of a small, but elite group of companies, which have been in business for 120 years and still 100% Australian owned.
- Scholarship Initiative: BSB30415 Certificate III in Business Administration. Each year, one scholarship will be awarded to every secondary school to which Lowes is the official school wear supplier with a value of up to \$3,300. The Scholarship would be taken up once the student has completed their final year 12 exams
- Four 20% off days per year; this includes school uniform items
- Lowes ZERO CARD; 5% discount on every purchase, 5% in Rewards Points, take home layby (with monthly repayments managed by Lowes)
- School receives 5% of annual net sales (ex. GST).

All members of the school community work in partnership to support students in the wearing of the school uniform.

A student shall wear the full and correct school uniform when on school grounds, travelling to and from the school and at all school organised activities unless informed otherwise by the staff member(s) responsible for the activity.

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to contact the school if provision of uniform causes financial hardship. For cultural and medical exemptions that apply to any part of the uniform, please refer to the section within the policy titled “Exemptions to Aspects of the Uniform Policy”.

## **School Colours**

The school colours are navy, gold and white.

## **Mount Gambier High School Uniform**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Details</b>
Polo	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Polo
Soft Shell Jacket	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Soft Shell Jacket
Track Pants	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Track Pants
Sports Leggings	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Sports Leggings
Summer Dress	Lowes Australia MGHS Plaid Dress (no shorter than mid-thigh length)
Hoodie (full zip and standard)	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Hoodie 1 or Hoodie 2
Chino Pants	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Chinos
Shorts	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Shorts
Woolblend Jumper	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Woolblend Jumper
Winter Skirt	Lowes Australia MGHS Tartan Skirt (no shorter than mid-thigh length)
Senior Rugby Top	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Rugby Top (year 12 students only)
Cap	Lowes Australia MGHS Navy Blue Cap

Please note that students whose families have previously purchased uniforms prior to 2022 will be able to wear them until the beginning of 2024.

## **Footwear**

Black shoes or sports shoes (WHS requires all footwear to be enclosed toe).

## **Senior Students (Year 12)**

Year 12 students are permitted to wear the Senior Rugby top supplied by Lowes Australia, which has been approved by the Governing Council. The Rugby top is woolblend, navy blue with white and gold horizontal stripes and screen printed with 'Seniors' across the back shoulders. Students will be able to add their name and year to their Senior Rugby Top.

## **Jewellery and Make up**

- Discrete jewellery that ensures the personal safety of our students is acceptable.
- Hair dyed an unnatural colour is discouraged as we are preparing students for professional expectations.
- Discrete make up and nail polish are acceptable.

## **Protective Clothing**

We provide a safe learning environment in line with the safety guidelines specified by the Department for Education, Department of industry and the Work Health Safety Act. Guidelines regarding clothing, footwear and eye protection are explained to students attending practical courses.

Mount Gambier High School acknowledges that excessive exposure to the sun can cause irreparable and potentially life threatening damage to the skin, eyes and other bodily tissues. For this reason Mount Gambier High School has included a hat in the school uniform.

Students are encouraged to wear the school uniform hat when outdoors and in particular when participating in outdoor sports for PE and School Sport. Sunscreen will be made available to students by their Health and Physical Education (HPE) teacher and students are encouraged to wear it throughout the day.

Within buildings, hats are to be removed.

## **Request for change to the School Uniform**

Any request to change the school uniform, including the way in which it is worn by students, must be made in writing to the Principal of Mount Gambier High School or the Chairperson of the Uniform Committee, or by tabling proposed changes at a meeting of the Uniform Committee. The request will be discussed by the Uniform Committee and if justified, tabled at the Governing Council meeting. If the Governing Council also consider the request to be justified, then consultation will be undertaken by the Uniform Committee with all parties affected by the change, such as students, parents/caregivers, staff of the school and external authorities or bodies. Once the consultation process is complete the Uniform Committee will advise the Governing Council of its deliberations concerning the request. If the Governing Council is satisfied with the advice of the Uniform Committee, it will make a decision on the request. If a change is approved, the Governing Council will advise the school community in writing and endeavour to provide at least six months' notice of an intention to change the uniform. If the request is denied, the Governing Council will advise the petitioner in writing of the decision.

## **Exemptions to aspects of the Uniform Policy**

The Principal may exempt a student from aspects of the uniform policy upon receipt of a written request from the parent or caregiver. The Principal will give due consideration to the request for an exemption. In making the decision, the Principal will have due regard for issues of culture and ethnicity, religion, financial hardship, genuine medical circumstances and/or other additional circumstances that the Governing Council may determine from time to time.

If the decision is not to grant an exemption, the parent will be advised in writing of the decision. If the parent remains dissatisfied with the decision, they should seek clarification from the Principal.

## **Exceptions to wearing the school uniform**

### **Sports Day**

Students participating in Sports Day are permitted to wear:

- a sun safe house colour T-Shirt or Polo Top that has short or long sleeves
- house coloured accessories

House colours are Red (Mount), Blue (Lake), Black (Tower) and Yellow (Gambier). Students will be advised which house they belong to soon after joining the school.

An acceptable standard of dress applies to Sports Day (that is, bare mid-riffs or revealing clothing is unacceptable).

### **Special Sports Programs**

Students are permitted to wear their allocated Special Sports Program uniform during Special Sports lessons and competitions.

### **Special Trip/Event Jumpers**

Jumpers purchased specifically for school related trips or events (Italy and Canberra trips, musical performances, pedal prix etc.) are able to be worn as part of the standard Mount Gambier High School uniform.

## **Non-compliance with the Mount Gambier High School Uniform Policy**

Non-compliance with the Mount Gambier High School Uniform Policy will be dealt with by the Principal or their nominee, and will involve strategies such as positive reinforcement, advice on responsible behaviour, provision of temporary clothing, private dialogue with the student and the parent(s)/caregiver(s) involved, verbal and/or written warning(s), physical exclusion zones, extra duties, detention, not participating in extracurricular activities.

<b>Status</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Reviewed by</b>	<b>Approval Date</b>	<b>Review Date</b>
Approved	Deputy Principal	Uniform Committee	21/6/2021	2024