



EDGARS CREEK
Secondary College

GENERAL APPEARANCE POLICY

Rationale:

At Edgars Creek Secondary College the general appearance policy reinforces in students a sense of respect in their own appearance, and recognizes that they are a part of a large college community by assisting in developing pride in representing their college. In addition the policy provides guidelines that support a non-competitive and safe environment that enhances the image of the college in the community. This policy is to be read in conjunction with the 'Uniform policy' and dress code. Together the policies, promotes a sense of inclusiveness and cohesion, citizenship and school spirit.

Aims:

- To promote equality amongst all students
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the college in the community
- To provide clear guidelines regarding students' general appearance, e.g. the wearing of make-up/cosmetics to school, hairstyles, colours etc.
- To provide an environment that is safe and that ensures issues of Occupational Health and Safety are addressed

Implementation:

- This policy forms part of and is to be read in conjunction with the College's Uniform policy
- This policy is compulsory and is to be adhered to by all College students
- This policy applies to during school hours, while travelling to and from the school and when students are on excursions/camps, sporting events, or representing the College at various forums

Make Up: - obvious make-up such as coloured lipsticks, lip gloss, eye make-up such as eyeshadow, eyeliner, mascara, or skin glitters and blush are not approved or permitted. A signed medical certificate is mandatory if make-up is required for medical reasons.

Nails: - Other than clear nail polish fingernails should have no polish. False/acrylic nails are a safety concern and therefore are not permitted.

Hair: - is to be neatly groomed. Extreme hair colours (e.g. green, pink, blue, purple rinses or dyes) and/or extreme hairstyles (e.g. extreme spikes, mohawks, dreadlocks) are NOT permitted. It is expected that student's hair colour are natural in tone e.g. tips and foils. School colour hair accessories may be worn. During practical classes for safety reasons all medium to long hair must be tied or pinned back.

Jewellery: - A single or a pair of (no more than two) stud earrings or sleepers worn in the ears and a watch are the only acceptable jewellery.

Significant items of jewellery (e.g. religious icons, cultural symbols, etc) can only be worn with the Principal Class Team permission after a letter explaining the reason is submitted from the Parents/Guardian. These items must be unobtrusive, non-offensive and of no safety concern.

Students who have visible parts of their faces pierced to accommodate jewellery are required to do one of the following while attending the College or representing the College community:

- Remove the jewellery during school hours
- Replace the metal jewellery with a clear plastic stud, which is transparent, unobtrusive and does not pose a safety hazard
- For health reasons 'new' facial piercings must be covered with bandages (except ears). Under Australian Law, it is deemed illegal for a minor under the age of 18 years to have a body/facial piercing without parent/guardian consent. Skin stretchers is not permissible as part of the College guidelines
- Students wearing unacceptable items of jewellery will be asked to remove them. The items will be kept with the Principal/Principal Class team to be returned to either the student or parent at a time determined by the Principal.

Tattoos: Tattoos (including temporary transfers) are to remain covered at all times under Australian Law, it is deemed illegal for a minor under the age of 18 years to receive a tattoo. Legal ramifications exist for parents/guardian and tattooist should this action take place.

The College accepts no responsibility in the event of an injury resulting from the piercing/s being torn out.