

Dress Code and Sunsmart Policy

1. Scope

- 1.1. This policy applies to all students and employees at the German International School Sydney (GISS).
- 1.2. Activities include regular school teaching days on campus, excursions, assemblies, camps, sporting events and other activities where students are in GISS care.

2. Students

- 2.1. There is no school uniform requirement at GISS.
- 2.2. Students have to adhere to the following general dress code rules:

Hat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to chapter '2.5. Hat' for details
Hair:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limitations to length and colour. • Hairstyle must not endanger sight and safety.
Earrings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not impact negatively upon safety.
Piercing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not impact negatively upon safety. • Individually, upon discretion of school Principal.
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not impact negatively upon safety. • Teachers can request removal at their discretion.
Makeup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limitations, however discretion and restraint is desirable. • Teachers can request removal at their discretion.
Upper attire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No singlet styles. Upper body, back, shoulders and stomach must be completely covered. • The décolletage must not be visible. • Underwear must not be visible. • It is not permitted to wear clothes with words or images that are considered offensive.
Lower attire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pants may be worn short or long. • Skirts, shorts and dresses must not be shorter than a student's hand-width above the knee unless worn with non-transparent tights/leggings.
Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoes must be enclosed at the back for safety (hiking sandals are permitted). • Thongs, high heels or stilettos are not permitted for safety reasons.
Sun-glasses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended: wearing close fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible. • Wearing is only allowed outdoors.

2.3. **Sports** has additional requirements:

- a. No singlet styles. Upper body, back, shoulders and stomach must be completely covered. Décolletage and underwear must also be covered.
- b. Suitable shorts or training pants should be worn. Hotpants are not permitted.
- c. Inside the gym, proper non-marking sport shoes must be worn (only shoes that have not been worn outside can be used).
- d. In cases, where students could not fulfil the sports dress code, the teacher will make the decision in what activities the student can participate and inform the respective parents.

2.4. **Excursions** have additional requirements:

- a. A school shirt / jacket has to be worn on all excursions.
- b. Students not fulfilling the requirements will be excluded from the excursion.

2.5. **Hat**

- a. Hats that protect the student's face, ears and nape of the neck from the sun have to be worn all year for the following occasions:
 - Before school
 - During the first big (morning tee) break (recess)
 - During the second break (lunch)
 - After school, while students wait for pick-up by parents or buses
 - On excursions
 - During school hours for all outdoor activities, including sports¹.
- Exceptions:
 - Secondary and IB students (years 5 to 12) who stay next to the class room doors at the Sophie Scholl House (ground floor) don't have to wear a hat.
 - In winter (terms 2 and 3) secondary and IB students (years 5 to 12) are encouraged, but not obliged to wear a hat.
- b. A hat can be chosen in any colour, meeting the following requirements:
 - Broad brimmed hat (recommended): full circumference brim that measures at least 7.5 centimetres. The brim may not be folded or molded in any way.
 - Legionnaire style hats that have a flap that covers the neck, ears and meets the sides of the front peak to provide protection to the side of the face.
 - Bucket style hats with an angled brim of at least 6 centimetres (5 centimetres for Pre-School). Bucket hats may impede peripheral vision and are therefore less preferred by GISS.
 - Caps are not allowed, except from year 7 at a student and their parents' responsibility (not recommended as they do not provide full sun protection).
 - Hoodies and beanies are not allowed as hats.

¹ During sports classes, baseball caps are worn at the discretion of the teacher, where a broad brimmed or bucket hat may be impractical.

- c. The school aims to provide a GISS branded broad brimmed hat that fulfils all requirements (recommended for use; though not mandatory - alternatively a hat can be supplied by parents/students as long as it fulfils requirements as per 2.5.b).

2.6. Sunscreen

- a. GISS uses several strategies to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors, such as reminder notices (i.e. email to parents and email newsletter), sunscreen buddies and reminder signs.
 - Information about sun protection is to be provided by class teachers to students and to parents at the beginning of each school year.
- b. Teachers encourage the usage of sunscreen
 - before each break, particularly before the lunch break, or when going outside.
 - Application should happen by students themselves and together in the class room before going outdoors.
- c. Students must provide their own sunscreen (recommended: SPF 30+; +). The school supplies SPF 30+ for employees and for student use (for exceptions only).
- d. Role models: Employees and parents are encouraged to act as role models by using a combination of sun protection measures, including applying sunscreen with the students and wearing sun protective clothing)

2.7. Sunsmart: protection from ultraviolet radiation

- a. A balance of ultraviolet radiation (UV) exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer.
 - Exposure to the sun's UV during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer in later life.
 - Too little UV from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health.
- b. To protect from UV, GISS uses a combination of levers, including
 - Seeking shade
 - Slapping on a hat (refer to '2.5. Hat')
 - Slapping on sunscreen (refer to '2.6. Sunscreen')
 - Wearing of sun protective clothing
 - Education of the school community
- c. Seeking shade:
 - Students are encouraged to stay in the shade as much as possible during peak times of ultraviolet radiation (UV).

- GISS aims to provide sufficient shade, including shelters and trees on the school grounds particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. breaks, lunch, outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.
 - Where possible, outdoor activities/events will be scheduled earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon, or indoor venues will be considered.
- d. Wearing of sun protective clothing: School clothing should be cool, loose fitting and made of densely woven fabric. This includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming as well as close fitting, wrap-around sunglasses.
- e. Education of the school community through newsletter, school homepage, parent meetings, employee meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment.

2.8. In cases of doubt, the school management has the final decision, concludes implications and GISS informs parents, if the dress code has not been followed.

3. School employees (teaching and admin team)

- 3.1. All GISS employees are expected to follow the professional dress code standards expected by teachers in Australia.
- 3.2. As a guidance, all GISS employees are subject to the same dress code and sunsmart rules as students with the following exceptions:
- a. Detailed hat specification must not be complied with, but a hat/cap has to be worn in summer terms 1 and 4 or the employee must stay in the shade when on duty.
 - b. Singlets are not permitted. However sleeveless tops are acceptable.
 - c. Heel shoes are permitted when forming part of business attire.

4. Parents and visitors

- 4.1. Parents and other school visitors have no general requirements but it is expected that no offensive or inappropriate attire is worn.
- 4.2. In cases of doubt, the Principal has the final decision and concludes implications.

Document Management

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School responsible	Principal
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Related documents	
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