



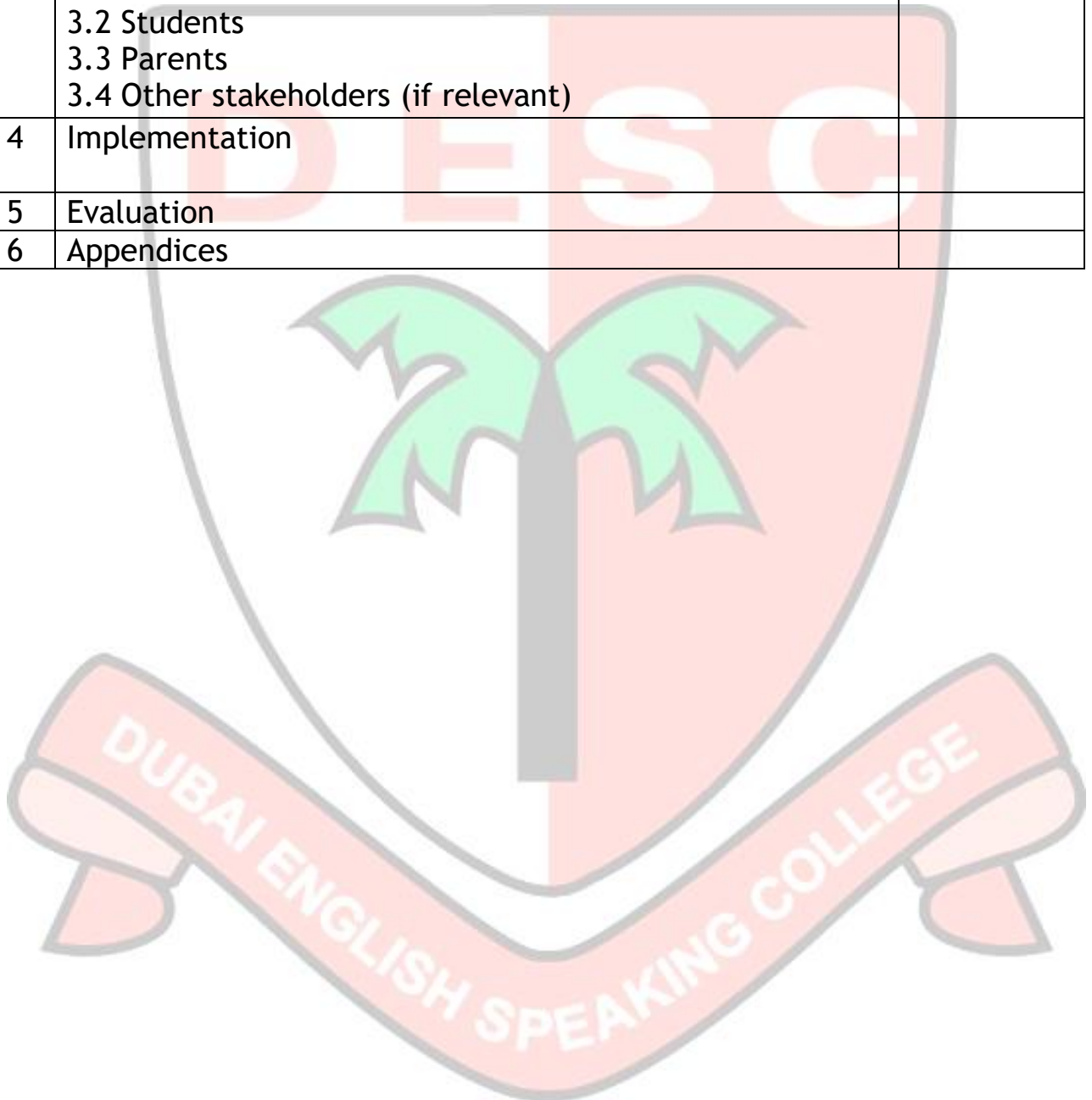
Dubai English Speaking College

Student Dress and Appearance Policy

2023 - 24

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Proofed by:	CVI	Next Review:	October 2024
Approved by:	CVI		

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STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE POLICY

1. RATIONALE

We all have a responsibility to ensure equality permeates into all aspects of school life and that everyone is treated equally irrespective of age, disability, race, religion or belief and gender. We want everyone connected with this school to feel safe, secure, valued and of equal worth. Having students dress in a College uniform helps reinforce this commitment to equality. Importantly, having a uniform means that students do not have to worry about peer pressure when it comes to their clothes and appearance. When everyone is dressed the same, it is less likely that students will worry about what they look like and therefore have more focus on their learning and development.

2. AIMS

The aim of this policy is:

- To ensure all our students to come to College neatly groomed and smartly dressed, in the correct and appropriate clothing.
- To ensure all students and parents are aware of our expectations adhere to the requirements of our uniform.

We believe our DESC uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the College
- Helps develop a positive ethos
- Promotes a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Promotes equality

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 DESC STAFF

All staff at the College will promote smart dress and encourage our students to take pride in their appearance. Staff members have a responsibility for addressing concerns before referral to Head of House or Head of Year.

Tutors will monitor appearance daily in form time and will address any infringements immediately. Persistent offenders will be recorded and receive a phone call home; this will follow with a referral to relevant H/DHOH.

Extreme situations which cannot be addressed (such as hair colour or cut), should be referred immediately to a Head of House or Head of Year.

Class teachers must tackle uniform infringements and address them immediately by asking student to remove or adjust offending item. Persistent offenders should be recorded on Go4Schools Behaviour module and actioned in line with DESC's Behaviour Policy.

The DESC Senior Leadership Team, Heads of House and Deputy Heads of House - will periodically spot check uniform in form time, lessons, break times, assemblies as well as at the beginning and end of the day.

3.2 DESC STUDENTS

There is a clearly defined uniform for all students. Students need to be aware of the uniform policy and adhere to the guidelines.

Students need to be aware that our expectations are the same when they are wearing the DESC uniform outside of College.

3.3 DESC PARENTS

Parents are asked to support their child in meeting the expectations of this uniform policy, ensuring their children's uniform is clean and in good repair. If uniform becomes damaged or discoloured, we request that it is not worn, and a replacement purchased from our uniform shop.

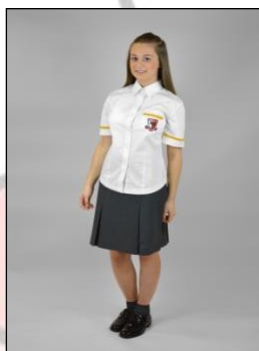
4. IMPLEMENTATION

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

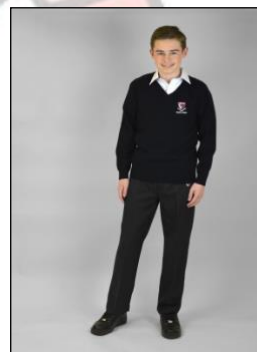
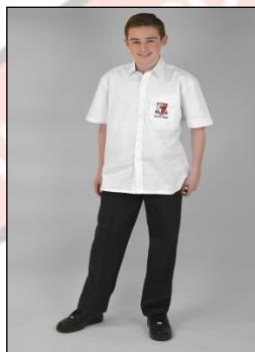
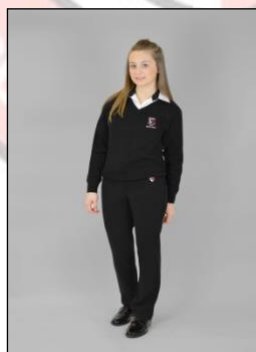
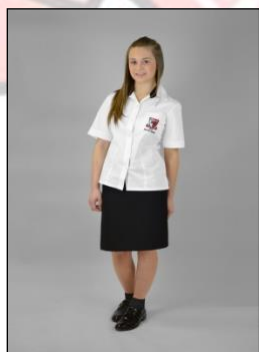
We have our own uniform shop, based on-site at DESC in Academic City. It is stocked, staffed and managed by Trutex (www.trutex.com/about-trutex).

Please note that the uniform should only be purchased from the DESC uniform shop in order to ensure uniformity of style and fabric. Substitutes are not acceptable.

Year 7 to Year 11 Students:



Sixth Form Students:



- **White short sleeved shirt with College logo. Sleeve and pocket piping in HOUSE COLOUR (see chart below). Sixth Form students must wear a white short sleeved shirt with College**

logo and black collar. Muslim students who wish to cover their arms may wear a thin long sleeve white top under their school shirt.

- Students may wear plain white t-shirts underneath their shirts, but they must not be longer than the shirt.
- **Grey skirt or grey tailored trousers** (Year 7 - Year 11) / **Black skirt or black tailored trousers** (Sixth Form) must be worn with the College logo. Skinny, bootleg or drainpipe trousers and those without the College logo are not permissible.
- **Skirt lengths** - the shortest is to touch the ground when kneeling and longest to be mid-calf.
- **Black Jumper (optional item)** with College logo. Sixth Form jumpers will have the College logo and Sixth Form identification.
- **Shoes** should be sensible, black, polished leather. Students should not wear heels more than 4cms (*see Footwear section for further information*). No Converse, Vans, canvas or trainer style shoes are permitted.
- **Socks** must be plain black with no patterns or logos. Students are not permitted to wear tights.

House Colours



DESC PE Kit and Teamwear (Year 7 to Year 13)



- **Shirt:** Red and black Polo shirt with DESC badge
Shorts/Skort: Black DESC shorts/skort or Black DESC Kukri teamwear shorts/skorts.
- **Leggings:** DESC branded leggings or plain black leggings (without large logos visible). If students wish to wear leggings for modesty, comfort or for religious/cultural reasons, they are permitted to do so, but these must be plain black (not see through) leggings.
- **Socks:** White ankle socks or trainer liners
- **Shoes:** Non-marking training shoes

Swimwear

All Year 7-11 Students will participate in Swimming based activities in P.E lessons and are required to wear DESC branded swimwear and a swim hat.

Boys: DESC swim shorts

Girls: DESC swimsuit

A towel and sliders/flip flops are also required for swimming lessons. These do not need to be a DESC branded design.

House Shirts

All Years 7-11 Students participate in sporting activities for House competitions and need to wear a House shirt. This is compatible with the current PE shorts/skorts. It is also to be worn when supporting House events such as Sports Day and the Swimming Gala. For this reason, it is compulsory to have a House Shirt.

Bags

Students may, if they wish, purchase College bags for their PE kit from Trutex. However, provided that they fit the purpose of carrying kit and equipment, students are allowed to choose their own bags.

DESC Teamwear

Students who are selected to represent one of the DESC Sports teams will be required to purchase the team kit from the Kukri online shop. We advise parents to wait until trials have been completed and squads have been selected in term one before purchasing any DESC Teamwear. All enquiries regarding Teamwear should be made to the PE Department: descsportsadmin@dessc.sch.ae.

Footwear

We expect all students to wear smart. Boots are not to be worn, i.e. no footwear should be above the ankle.

Shoes must be leather and completely black with no coloured stripes, swishes or logos. Shoes must be firm and supportive, and students must keep their shoes polished. Fabric and canvas shoes must not be worn.

Examples of Acceptable Leather Shoes:





- Ballet style pumps are not permissible as they do not offer sufficient support and protection
- If students choose to wear black leather pumps, they must offer support to the sole and the heel of the floor. Picture 4 above is a version of a pump style shoe with sufficient support.



Examples of unacceptable shoes

Jewellery

Year 7-11 Students:

No jewellery should be worn. However, students are allowed one small, plain pair of **gold** or **silver** studs worn in the conventional position in the ear lobe for those who have pierced ears. Multiple earrings, nose studs and piercings in other parts of the body are not permitted. Friendship bands, necklaces, wristbands, ankle chains, etc. must not be worn.

If any of the above items are worn to College, they must be removed immediately and at the request of any member of staff.

Sixth Form Students:

In addition, to wearing earrings, Sixth Form students are permitted to wear a chain necklace and one ring only.

Students who decide to have new piercings during term time, either in an unconventional part of the ear or other part of the body, will be asked to remove the earring. **Plasters covering earrings are not permissible.**

Items of religious significance may be worn with the prior written permission of the Head of House/Year only, following written parental request.

Hair

- All students should have conventional haircuts, no shorter than a grade 2.
- Hair should be neat and tidy, no undercut hairstyles (long on top, shaved at sides)
- Fringes should not obscure the eyes.
- Tram lines or other shaved patterns are not permissible.

For Health and Safety reasons, the excessive use of wax or gel is not allowed and hair should not hang over the face. A member of staff may ask students to tie their hair back if they feel it is in the way. However, hair **must** be tied back for all practical lessons.

Any artificial change in hair colour should have a natural appearance. Students coming to school with extreme colours such as purple, red or bleached hair, will be sent home and required to restore their hair to an acceptable colour before being allowed to return to school.

Hair ornaments should be plain and functional, kept to a minimum, in black and in keeping with uniform. Decorative or elaborate hair ornaments are not permissible.

Students are permitted to wear PE kit to school on days that they have PE lessons only.

Body Adornment

Nail varnish (including on toenails), transfers and tattoos are not permitted. Sixth Form students may have clear polish or French manicure only. Coloured polish or nail art is not allowed.

Facial make up, such as lipstick and eye-liner, is not permitted and will be removed by the student on the instruction of staff members. Light foundation is permitted as long as it is natural in appearance.

For **Health, Safety, Environmental** and **Legal** reasons the following are **not** permitted in school:-

- Cigarettes (including e-cigarettes, vapes, tobacco or other smoking materials or paraphernalia)
- Pipes
- Alcohol
- Matches
- Lighter or flammable materials
- Solvents
- Chewing gum
- Dangerous instruments - including penknives, laser pens. etc.
- Nail varnish

These items will be confiscated or students will be asked to remove them and, in certain circumstances, will be suspended from College, as the items may present a danger to themselves and others or cause damage to the environment. Any items taken by staff from students will be returned to the students at the end of the day. Students wanting to bring antiperspirant to school must only bring the roll on variety.

If students bring in their own sporting equipment, they should be stored in the tutor's room or PE Department during the course of the day.

Students who are persistently wearing incorrect uniform will be dealt with according to the Behaviour Policy.

Mobile telephones

For safety reasons, students are allowed to bring their mobile phone to College, but it must be switched off and kept in a safe place during the day. If they are seen or heard they will be confiscated, and a detention issued for persistent offenders. The phone will be returned at the end of the day. Phones must be out of sight and switched off from the time that students arrive until the end of the day. If students need to contact their parents during the College day, they **MUST NOT** use their mobile phone, even if they think that it is an emergency. They should go to their House office either at first break or lunchtime where they will be able to call home using

the College telephone. If a student is unwell, they must go and see the College Nurse in the first instance. If the Nurse feels that it is necessary for the student to go home, they will contact their parents and arrange for the student to be collected.

Headphones

The wearing of headphones is not permitted around the College or within lessons, unless they are needed as part of that lesson. Sixth Formers are allowed to wear headphones in the Sixth Form Centre only and during study periods only.

5. EVALUATION

This Policy will be reviewed annually.

6. APPENDICES

None.

