



School Uniform Policy

Elphin Community College - This policy outlines the expectations, standards, and responsibilities relating to the wearing of the school uniform at ECC

November 2025

Table of Contents

1.	Mission Statement of Elphin Community College	1
2.	Rationale for the policy.....	1
3.	Policy Provision	2
3.1	School Uniform	2
3.2	PE and Games Uniform.....	3
3.3	Jewellery	3
3.4	Wearing of the school uniform:	3
3.5	Hair, Makeup and Accessories:	4
3.6	Implementation of the Uniform Policy.....	4
4	Sanctions for Incorrect Uniform.....	5
5	Roles and Responsibilities	5
6	Monitoring, Review and Evaluation	6

1. Mission Statement of Elphin Community College

Elphin Community College is committed to providing a caring, inclusive and student-centred environment where each individual is supported to reach their full potential academically, personally, and socially. Our vision is to empower students to become confident, responsible, and active members of society.

As an ETB school, the [ETBI's Patron's Framework on Ethos](#) underpins all policies and practices in Elphin Community College. It guides the values we promote, how we deliver learning experiences, and the quality of relationships across our community. As such, Elphin Community College is committed to and underpinned by the core values of:

- Excellence in Education
- Care
- Equality
- Community
- Respect



This ethos underpins our school's commitment to promoting pride, respect, and belonging through its school uniform policy.

2. Rationale for the policy

At Elphin Community College, we believe that our school uniform fosters a strong sense of community, belonging and pride. Wearing the uniform unites all students under a shared identity and reflects the core values of our school – **Excellence in Education, Care, Equality, Community and Respect.**

A clear and consistent dress code supports a positive learning environment by ensuring that students are dressed in a manner that is appropriate for safe, respectful and focused learning environment.

Elphin Community College has a long-standing tradition of students wearing their uniform with pride. The tradition reflects not only the students' respect for themselves and their school, but also the strong support of our parent community.

All students are expected to wear the full school uniform at all times while in school (except on PE days), when representing the school on trips, and during State Examinations, unless otherwise instructed. Wearing the school uniform signifies membership of our school community. Students are reminded that, in uniform, they represent Elphin Community College both inside and outside of the school gates and are expected to uphold the standards of respect and behaviour set out in the **Code of**

Positive Behaviour. This policy sets out the standards and expectations for wearing the Elphin Community College uniform.

3. Policy Provision

3.1 School Uniform

The following items form the compulsory school uniform:

Uniform for Boys:

- Grey trousers
- Green V-Neck jumper with Elphin Community College Crest
- Standard white collared shirt/white polo shirt
- Black footwear – Fully black, including soles, logos and laces.
- School jacket must be worn (applies to 1st, 2nd and 3rd year in 2025 , TY/5th & 6th Year must wear a plain dark jacket).

The compulsory uniform for girls:

- Grey trousers (not leggings) or uniform skirt
- Green V-Neck jumper with Elphin Community College Crest
- White blouse or white polo shirt
- Dark socks or dark tights
- Black footwear – Fully black, including soles, logos and laces.
- School jacket must be worn (applies to 1st, 2nd and 3rd year in 2025 , TY/5th & 6th Year must wear a plain dark jacket).

Exemptions and Adjustments

Elphin Community College recognises that, in certain circumstances, reasonable adjustments to the school uniform may be required to support individual students.

Exceptions may be made for:

- Sensory sensitivities or medical needs, where supported by appropriate professional documentation (e.g. occupational therapist or medical report).
- Religious or cultural reasons, where alternative attire is required in keeping with the student's faith or beliefs.

In such cases, parents/guardians are asked to contact the Principal or Deputy Principal in advance to discuss suitable arrangements.

All adjustments will be handled sensitively to protect student dignity and inclusion, while maintaining the overall integrity of the school uniform.

Labelling:

All uniform items, including PE gear and related equipment, should be clearly labelled with the student's full name to ensure that misplaced items can be easily identified and returned.

3.2 PE and Games Uniform

The following items are acceptable for participation in PE or Games for all students:

- School PE tracksuit or dark shorts
- Polo shirt (white or dark)
- Dark sweatshirt or jersey
- Football boots and runners

Note: "Dark" refers to **black or navy** only.

The PE uniform may **only** be worn on the day a student has a timetabled PE class, or when specifically directed by a teacher.

The PE uniform is not considered part of the daily school uniform and may not be worn outside PE-related activities.

3.3 Jewellery

For reasons of safety, security and general appearance, the wearing of jewellery is restricted.

- Only a watch and small ear-studs/earrings may be worn.
- Nose, lip, or eyebrow studs, as well as visible piercings or body art, are not permitted if they create an inappropriate appearance or pose a health and safety risk
- All jewellery must be removed for PE, Games, and sporting activities for health and safety reasons.

3.4 Wearing of the school uniform:

- Students are expected to present themselves in a **neat, tidy, and respectful manner** at all times.
- Uniforms should be **clean, pressed, in good repair, and properly fitted**.
- **All uniform items must be clearly labelled** with the student's full name.

- The **formal school uniform** must be worn when representing the school at official events or outings. This may include a **school blazer and tie**, which will be provided by the school as required.
- **Skirt length:** Skirts must be at or just above knee length.

Students are encouraged to wear their uniform with pride as a reflection of the high standards and positive reputation of Elphin Community College.

3.5 Hair, Makeup and Accessories:

- Makeup, if worn, must be minimal and natural (light foundation only).
- Large or hoop earrings are not permitted on health and safety grounds.
- Students' hair must be neat, clean, and of a natural appearance.
- Hairstyles or accessories that draw unnecessary attention are not permitted.
- Facial piercings, visible body piercings, and tattoos are not allowed.
- Only school badges or school-approved fundraising badges may be worn on the uniform.
- Non-uniform items may be confiscated and retained for collection by parents/guardians at the end of the term or by arrangement with the Deputy Principal.
- Students may request additions or modifications to the uniform for religious, medical, or sensory reasons. Requests should be made in writing to the principal and must be supported by appropriate documentation. All additional items must be in school colours.

3.6 Implementation of the Uniform Policy

When a uniform item is lost or damaged, only an exact replacement is acceptable. Jeans, leggings, or tracksuit bottoms are not permitted as substitutes for school trousers under any circumstances.

Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that their child attends school each day in full uniform.

If a student is unable to wear a uniform item for a legitimate reason, a dated and signed note from a parent/guardian must be presented to the Deputy Principal before 9.00 am. *Students who fail to provide a note may receive a uniform warning and be referred to the Deputy Principal.*

4 Sanctions for Incorrect Uniform

Failure to comply with the uniform policy will result in the following graduated sanctions:

Offence	Action
First Offence	Record on VShare; points applied (2 points). Replacement uniform where appropriate and if available.
Second Offence	Recorded on VShare. One school detention – morning or Friday afternoon.
Third Offence	Recorded on VShare – points. Two school detentions
Repeated Offences	Repeated breaches of the uniform policy may result in suspension until a meeting with parents/guardians has taken place and full compliance is assured.

Serious breaches of the uniform policy may result in a student being **sent home to correct their appearance** before returning to class.

The school reserves the right to determine:

- (a) Whether students are wearing the regulation uniform.
- (b) Whether the uniform is being worn appropriately.
- (c) Whether any item of clothing or accessory is deemed unsuitable or inappropriate.

5 Roles and Responsibilities

School uniform is a shared responsibility. The roles are as follows:

Role	Responsibility
Parents/Guardians	Ensure their child is in full uniform every day and that uniform items are clean, labelled and in good condition.
Students	Take responsibility for preparing and wearing the correct uniform each day

All members of the school community	Encourage and support consistent implementation of the uniform policy.
Year Head	Monitor and follow up on uniform compliance within their year group.
School leadership	Develop, implement, and monitor the uniform policy; consult with stakeholders; present it to the Board for approval; and ensure it is promoted across the school.
Student Council	Liaise with school management on student feedback and contribute to policy review discussions.

6 Monitoring, Review and Evaluation

The policy will be reviewed biennially or as required, following consultation with staff, parents, students, and the Board of Management to ensure its ongoing relevance and effectiveness.

ECC School Uniform Policy

Shared with Staff for Review:		3 rd November 2025	
Shared with Student Council for review:		7 th November 2025	
Shared with Parents Association for review:		19 th November 2025	
Shared with BOM for review:		19 th November 2025	
Ratified by BOM:		26 th November 2025	
Policy Review Date:		Next Review Date: October 2027	
Signed: Mary Mullarkey	Date: 26/11/2025	Signed: Anne Gilleran	Date: 26/11/2025
Chairperson BOM		Secretary BOM	