



St Leo's CATHOLIC COLLEGE
CO-EDUCATION IN THE HEART OF WAHROONGA

New

ACADEMIC AND SPORT UNIFORM

January 2020



Winter uniform, Senior

PRAYER : SCRIPTURE : SERVICE : COMMUNITY



OUR MISSION

With Christ as our light, forming confident, competent Catholic-valued women and men of conscience, nourished within a loving, inclusive and welcoming community of grace.

OUR VISION

To provide a passion-driven education of the whole person that is personalised, rigorous, innovative, dynamic and evangelising.

PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD



Our uniform plays a crucial role in representing the vision and values of St Leo's Catholic College; it also provides a collective identity for our College, a sense of community, educational psychology and wellbeing.

Why introduce a new uniform?

In 2017, the College began a comprehensive review of its operations using the **P.R.I.D.E.** framework. This framework acts as a 'lens' and a form of quality measurement to ensure that all facets of College life are **P**ersonalised, **R**igorous, **I**nnovative, **D**ynamic and **E**vangelising.

Following this review, the College uniform was identified as an area of focus and the new uniform — which has not been reviewed for many years — has been designed to meet higher benchmarks in these fields. The new uniform will be launched in January 2020.

We have worked with the school uniform specialists Cowan & Lewis to develop this stylish uniform ensemble. A school uniform creates a sense of cohesion and belonging for students and it is one of the key strategic factors we will employ as we continue our program of innovation at St Leo's College.

The launch of the new school uniform in 2020 will coincide with the full use of The Mary MacKillop Centre; this is a state-of-the-art facility that will deliver new drama, dance, music, technology, timber-working, food technology and general learning spaces. For the students, being able to wear a new school uniform, to utilise the new facilities and to undertake new learning experiences in conjunction with our 6Cs — Christian Citizenship, Character, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical thinking — will be a powerful combination for success.

As you read through this guide to our new College uniform, I trust you will appreciate the thought and care which has gone into providing our students with a uniform that meets the highest standards of comfort, flexibility and affordability. The students' reaction has been overwhelmingly positive!

Anthony Gleeson
Principal



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We walk together in footsteps millennia old.

We acknowledge the Dharug and Guringai people as the traditional custodians of this land on which St Leo's Catholic College stands.

We pay respect to Elders past and present, the Keepers of the Dreaming. Their spirituality flows through all of creation, reminding us that the land does not belong to us: we belong to the land.

Here in Wahroonga, we stand on Country on which the Guringai and Dharug people have performed age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

We acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of the region.





"I love the tie! It's really cute and so easy to wear. The jumper is very soft on my skin – not scratchy like the one before." Sarah, Year 8

A NEW LOOK FOR OUR COLLEGE

A new contemporary uniform look for St Leo's Catholic College students, befitting our state-of-the-art learning environment.

The history of school uniforms in Australia dates back to the early 1900s, although the initial concept of a school uniform can be traced as far back as 1222, in England.

There has been very little change to the uniform at St Leo's College, Wahroonga, since the College first opened in 1952. We are therefore very proud to be introducing a comfortable and flexible new St Leo's College uniform from 2020 onward, which has been designed in collaboration with the school uniform specialists, Cowan & Lewis of Turramurra.

A school uniform creates a sense of cohesion and belonging, for both students and their families; it also creates an important identity for the school in the community. The smart new St Leo's College uniform has been designed with student comfort in mind, and we hope that it is also worn as a badge of pride for many years to come.

"I just love the look of the new blazer, shirt, tie and jumper. I feel as though I could go for an interview in this outfit, and I would definitely get the job!" Will, Year 11



A new uniform for the modern St Leo's College student, combining contemporary style with meaningful links to our heritage.





"I love the colours of the new sport uniform. The fabric is really nice, too – it is soft and breathable, and so much more comfortable than before." Jake, Year 9

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why introduce a new uniform?

In 2017, St Leo's College began a comprehensive review of its operations using the **P.R.I.D.E.** framework. This framework acts as a 'lens' through which to review College activity, and also as a form of quality measurement to ensure that all facets of College life are **P**ersonalised, **R**igorous, **I**nnovative, **D**ynamic and **E**vangeliising. The College uniform was identified as an area to focus on as a result of this review.

What is the transition period?

Three years – from 2020 to 2022.

Will the new uniform be the same price as the present uniform?

The price of the new St Leo's College uniform is based on the present costings and within the current parameters provided by the College Uniform Supplier, Cowan & Lewis of Turramurra.

When does wearing the new uniform become compulsory?

For students who will be entering Year 7 and Year 11 from January 2020, the new College uniform will be compulsory as families would normally purchase uniforms during this period of transition.

From 2020 onwards, students entering Year 10 will also be considered to be in 'Senior School'; therefore, those students in Year 10 in 2020 will have the option to purchase the new College uniform – this is **not** compulsory, however families are welcome to engage with this option.

Students currently in Years 7 and 8 in 2019 can remain in the existing uniform – the new uniform is optional during the transitional three year period.

Students currently in Year 11 and going into Year 12 in Term 4 2019, can remain in the existing uniform until they graduate in 2020.

Will a student be permitted to wear a combination of current and new uniforms?

No. However, it is important to the College that a transition period of three years is put in place, which will allow families sufficient time to make the change.

What about College photos?

College photos are a historical record, and so for the next three years our photos will reflect the College during this transition period.

What happens to my old uniforms?

The College will organise for previous uniforms to be donated to Kiribati and affiliates, as part of the Pacific Partnership Program.

When will the new College uniform be available for purchase?

The new uniforms will be available for purchase from November 2019 (Term 4).

Where and how can I buy the uniform?

The new College uniform can be purchased from Cowan & Lewis of Turramurra (www.cowanlewis.com.au). Fittings can be done in the shop; orders can also be placed online, with free delivery to the College twice a week.

Can I sell the new uniforms as my child outgrows theirs and/or leaves the College?

Yes. Parents have the option to utilise the services of The Uniform Exchange website, where you may post uniform items for sale online (www.theuniformexchange.com.au).

Will the backpack change?

The College backpack will remain the same.

Is the cap compulsory?

The sports cap is compulsory for outdoor wear when the sport uniform is worn.

Will the band uniform change?

No. The band uniform will remain in its current design.

Who do I contact if I have any problems or queries about uniforms?

Jayne Persico, Registrar
jayne.persico@dbb.catholic.edu.au

A young man and woman are sitting on a stone ledge in front of a large white statue of a religious figure. The man is wearing a dark blue V-neck sweater over a white collared shirt and a striped tie. The woman is wearing a white short-sleeved button-down shirt with a dark blue bow tie and a dark blue skirt with white vertical stripes. Both shirts have a small logo on the left chest that says "St Leo's" with a cross and a yellow flower. In the background, other students in similar uniforms are visible, and a building is partially seen.

Winter and Summer uniform, Senior

*The designer, manufacturer
and supplier, Cowan & Lewis.*

During the 1970s, private school uniforms were typically purchased from department stores in the city, such as David Jones, Grace Brothers, Gowings, Peapes and Cowan & Rudas – the latter changed its name to Cowan & Lewis Limited in 1976, and moved from Macquarie Street in the city to Turramurra in 1983.

Today, the only one of those companies still trading in schoolwear is Cowan & Lewis, and they continue to supply school and sport uniforms to a large Sydney audience. Cowan & Lewis is a private company, solely owned by the Welsh family.

THE PERFECT FIT FOR OUR COLLEGE



Introducing a College uniform for boys and girls that is both practical and comfortable, featuring hard-working fabrics and flexible styles which will suit each student's personal taste and body shape.



"I love the introduction of trousers – this is such a plus for the girls." Emily, Year 10



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P R A Y E R : S C R I P T U R E : S E R V I C E : C O M M U N I T Y