



## St Patrick's CBC

# Hair Policy

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St Patrick's CBC maintains an ethos and value system designed to assist in the promotion of the highest ideals of education at all levels.

Pupils are required to adhere to these ethos and values of which some are listed and written down and others simply exist as part of the unwritten tradition of an institution of this nature.

The emphasis for boys and girls is on neatness and on natural styles. Hair styles must be uniform appropriate – where there is uncertainty the Head and Deputy Head of High School will make the final decision in consultation with the teachers in charge of hair styles and uniform.

Pupils must have acceptable haircuts BEFORE they return to School.

Trending hair styles which comply with this policy are allowed. If not sure pupils must consult with the teacher in charge of hair styles and uniform before wearing the hair style.

One can understand that an educational institution of over 100 years is instilled with a rich, well-embroidered history. This history is built up by generations of young men and women who have walked its hallowed walls and ensured that when they leave, these traditions will weave their way through the tapestry of lives within the South African society and beyond our borders.

Whilst certain items of clothing and styles of dress have indeed made manifest changes over the life of St Patrick's CBC, the basic sense of who we are remains and is framed by an understanding of this fact. The following points may assist:

1. At St Patrick's CBC, pupils are not here to make fashion statements.
2. Pupils are at St Patrick's CBC to be educated and to be part of the history which evolves with time.
3. Within this context St Patrick's CBC does allow some flexibility which may be referred to in this document and others as privileges...
  - The matric class of each year has certain privileges in terms of hair styles and uniform.
  - Certain deviations in respect of the hair are allowed such as the "cornrows" or types of braids, but this is not extended to a free-for-all idea of wearing hair styles currently trending.
4. Hair is expected to be kept within what can be loosely termed "natural styles". This basically means that the boys' hair is kept short and neat and that the girls keep their hair neat/tied back if necessary and no dyes/tints etc may be used. The fashion of having the hair cut to form a pattern for example is not allowed.
5. **The same approach is in existence in respect of the wearing of jewellery where basic ear studs for girls is allowed but boys may not wear such items of jewellery.**

## HAIR GUIDELINES

### BOYS:

#### ALLOWED

- ✓ The hair should be well-groomed, tidy and neat at all times.
- ✓ Moderate gelling is allowed as approved by the teacher in charge.
- ✓ A step is allowed. The difference between top and sides must be of acceptable lengths as approved by the teacher in charge when consultation is sort before putting on the hair style.
- ✓ The top part should be of appropriate length and the bottom part of the step should not be bald.
- ✓ Hairline shaping should be neat and appropriate.
- ✓ Afros are allowed but should be neat, moderate and not distracting when sitting in front of others.
- ✓ **Matric boys** are allowed to plait their hair with the following provisos;
  - The plaiting should end at the hair line
  - Plaiting should not form patterns but should be straight
  - Plaiting should not have extensions
  - Should be of the same colour as natural hair
- ✓ Any other suggested privileges are to be negotiated with the teacher-in charge and the Deputy Head of High School before wearing them. Failure to do so will be regarded as disrespecting/undermining authorities which may be seen a serious offense. If it happens that they wear the hair style before negotiating, then it will not be allowed and no negotiations will be entertained.

## NOT ALLOWED

- ✓ Facial hair is prohibited at all times.
  - Pupils of Muslim religion may wear beard only if written request from the Imam has been submitted to the Executive Head and permission has been granted.
  - Boys are expected to be clean shaven unless a doctor's note is provided, but effort should be made by the pupils to get medication that allows them to comply with the above point.
- ✓ Side-burns should be up to mid-ear.
- ✓ No colouring, highlighting nor dying of hair is allowed.
- ✓ No hair extensions nor additions are allowed in boys' hair.
- ✓ Hair accessories, ponytails, beads, metals, plastics or any similar materials are not allowed.
- ✓ No patterns, lines nor wording as form of styling is allowed in boys' hair.
- ✓ Hair should not be inappropriately long. When pulled towards eyebrows, it must not touch the eyebrows.

## GIRLS

### ALLOWED:

- ✓ Girls' may wear hair extensions which must be the same colour as their natural hair colour. These extensions may not just be attached but must form part of the plaiting to their hair or as cornrows. If the extensions are the incorrect colour, the pupil will be requested to remove these extensions.
- ✓ Hair braiding or additions are allowed in girls' hair and must be of appropriate thickness (pinky finger) and length (mid back). Pupils are required to consult with the teacher in charge before wearing the braids.
- ✓ If girls' hair is shoulder length or longer it must be tied to the back (in a ponytail). No loose hair must be in their faces.
- ✓ A fringe cannot be longer than the forehead, if it is; then it must be tied away from the face.
- ✓ Black/ navy blue and bottle green hairbands are the only hair accessories that are allowed to tie girls' hair.

### NOT ALLOWED:

- ✓ Grade 8 to 11 girls are not allowed to wear in the form of weaves/wigs.
- ✓ No colouring, highlighting nor dying of hair is allowed.
- ✓ Hair accessories, ponytails, beads, metals, plastics, shinning hair clips or any similar materials are not allowed.
- ✓ No patterns, lines nor wording as form of styling is allowed in girls' hair.
- ✓ **Matric girls** are allowed to have weaves, wigs and hair extensions with the following provisos:
  - They should be the same colour as the natural hair.
  - If the weave does not cover a part of the natural hair, then the natural hair should blend in with the weave to make the hair look neat and natural.
  - The length of the weave must be manageable.
  - Should be neatly tied at all times.
  - There should be no hair hanging in the face.
  - The weave must be maintained properly at all times. It must be renewed if it begins to look old and untidy.
  - Matric girls are allowed to wear white hair bands.
  - **Hair style(s) may not be used as an excuse to avoid participating in sporting activities.**

### GUIDELINES FOR CORRECTING UNACCEPTABLE HAIR STYLE

- ✓ Any suspected infringement or outright infringement of the above should be referred to the teachers in charge of Hair.
- ✓ If there is a definite infringement of facial hair and or hair style the pupil is given until the next day to correct it and break-detention + a demerit is issued immediately.
- ✓ Where the hair cannot be fixed by the next day, written communication from a parent/guardian must be submitted to the teacher in charge specifying the date when the hair will be fixed.
- ✓ If by the next day, the infringement is not fixed and no written communication is submitted the pupil is given a letter for the parents to sign and the teacher in charge also calls the parent. The pupil is given another day to rectify the infringement and **three demerits** are issued at this stage.

- ✓ If corrected but the style does is still not in line with the hair policy, the issue is referred to the Deputy Head.
- ✓ The Deputy Head will call the parent(s) to discuss the issue.
- ✓ Depending on the outcome of this discussion, the issue will be referred to the Executive Head for a possible disciplinary hearing.

**NOTE: Prefects have the authority to reprimand all pupils with incorrect hairstyle and uniform infringements. Failure to adhere to their advice may induce them to report it to the teacher in charge for further disciplinary measures.**