



Te Kāreti o Tawa - Tawa College

Kākahu Kura - School Uniform



Tawa College is a uniform school and it is our expectation that students arrive at school wearing their uniform well.

**Our uniform is a statement of the right to a voice.
It is connected to student agency, democracy and belonging.**

Uniform is:

- is a statement of belonging, participation and place
- is a demonstration of the student's commitment to our community and an acknowledgement of student voice
- is a recognition that you are a part of something bigger than yourself
- is a commitment to community, not conformity
- is a reference to a unified experience and a statement of inclusivity - not a suppression of diversity
- keeps our community safe

Gender fluid students are welcome and can wear whatever uniform items they feel most comfortable in. We support students who choose to wear taonga or items culturally appropriate to them and their traditions.

We will support students with uniform in a way that is inclusive, dignified, positive and creates a sense of community. We have a consistent restorative approach. The most important thing to us is that students are at school and learning - we do not want uniform to be a cause of conflict or to interfere with the right to learn. This requires an active partnership between school, students and whānau.

General Guidelines

- Name all uniform items so they are easily identified and can be returned if misplaced.
- We encourage students to leave their valuables at home. The school takes no liability for loss or damage of valuables.
- Taonga may be worn provided they are worn in a way that aligns with the cultural values of the taonga. It is important to note that students may be asked to temporarily remove the item for a lesson/activity if staff consider the taonga or jewellery to be a health and safety risk.
- Hair should be worn in a style that remains tidy.
- Long nails may not be appropriate where health & safety is a concern (for example, Technology, Science & Foods).
- There may be times where students will be asked to remove jewellery if there is a health & safety risk or it poses a distraction to learning.
- Hoodies are not part of the school uniform.
- Jeans, cargo pants, tracksuit pants and leggings are not uniform items.
- No gang colours are permitted to be worn including hats, scarves and coloured shoes.
- Non-uniform items needing to be temporarily looked after will be stored in the school office





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Tawa College Uniform Items

Our uniform items are interchangeable to meet student needs.

- **Jersey:** Tawa College blue, long sleeved, v-neck with embroidered college crest.
- **Sweatshirt:** Blue Tawa College sweatshirt with crest.
- **Shirts/Blouses:** Either a silver short or long sleeved shirt. Any garment worn underneath the shirt should not be visible above the neckline or below the sleeves or lower hem.
- **Skirt:** The Tawa College skirt is in the Duncan tartan fabric. The minimum length of the skirt should be on the knee. We encourage students wearing skirts to also wear black tights in the winter for warmth.
- **Shorts:** Black dress shorts.
- **Trousers:** Tailored long black or grey trousers may be worn with a black belt. Female cut black trousers are also available.
- **Blazer:** The Tawa College blazer is encouraged to be worn as part of the uniform.
- **Tie:** Plain Tawa College tie with embroidered crest can be worn with a long sleeved shirt/blouse.
- **Scarf:** The Tawa College scarf may be worn.
- **Physical Education Uniform:** The Tawa College PE uniform can be found on our suppliers website and includes a PE top and blue shorts. Shoes must have non-marking rubber soles. Plain black or navy blue track pants may be worn for PE classes during Terms 2 and 3.
- **Rain Jacket:** Plain black jacket with no markings as part of the college uniform.
- **Head Wear:** Any plain dark blue hat may be worn outdoors and must be removed in class.
- **Cultural dress and items:** We welcome cultural diversity. Pasifika students can wear a plain black faitaga, tupenu, lavalava, sulu. Headscarves may be worn as appropriate for religious and cultural reasons.
- **Socks:** Plain black mid-calf socks or white ankle socks are permitted.
- **Stockings:** Stockings in black or skin coloured shade are permitted.

Acceptable footwear at Tawa College

- School shoes must be **plain black, leather or leather like** school shoes (with a closed heel)
- The footwear must have a **black upper** and **black sole**, with **no coloured branding**.
- As an exception to the closed-heel rule, plain black flat leather sandals with a back strap may be worn.
- Sandals cannot be worn in classes that for health and safety reasons, require fully enclosed shoes (for example, in science laboratories, technology workshops and the food room).
 - If a student is not wearing the correct footwear for practical work they will not be able to participate in the activity and will be required to observe or be given alternative work.
- **The following footwear is not permitted:**
 - Ankle boots, Crocs, canvas shoes and Birkenstocks

Dress uniform

The dress uniform consists of our blazer worn with a white long sleeved shirt/blouse, shoes as stipulated above, sock or stockings (as above), college tie, and either trousers or the tartan skirt.

Sports Uniforms

These vary according to particular sports codes and are available from the Sports Department.