

Student Dress Code



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Wedge Park Primary School on 03 9743 7595 or wedge.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Wedge Park Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Wedge Park Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Wedge Park Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Wedge Park Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Wedge Park Primary School students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden or plain navy blue or sky blue

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Cultural or religious jewellery can be worn under clothing and must not be hazardous to the health and wellbeing of the student.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun safety

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of headlice and for student safety.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) to 30 April and on any other day prescribed by the school. School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parent or student choice.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

School logos can be purchased from the office for parents to attach to school colour tops not purchased through our uniform supplier. In addition school hats can be purchased from the office. Parents may visit LOWES Melton, or order it online through <https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online-landing>.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the school office and ask to speak to our welfare coordinator to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Wedge Park Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Compass. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Wedge Park Primary School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of this code prevents the student from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires an exemption from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the Principal receives a request for an exemption, they will:

- consider the grounds for the exemption request
- explain the process to the student and/or their parents/carers

- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

The Principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Wedge Park Primary School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on our website.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following way:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Available on the school's staff website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Wedge Park Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Wedge Park Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Wedge Park Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2024
Consultation	School council March 2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	June 2026

APPENDIX A: Wedge Park Primary School UNIFORM ITEMS

All year round

The following items may be worn all year round:

Jumper or Vest

Navy blue bomber jacket or polar fleece

Polo shirts

Sky blue long and short sleeved with school logo.

Skorts

Plain navy blue skorts without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with navy blue tights/stockings.

Tights/stockings

Navy blue tights/stockings

Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Covered toes, black school shoes or pull on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

Headwear

Navy blue, head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Dresses

Blue and white checked dress

Shorts

Plain navy blue shorts without decoration or brand name

Pants

Plain, navy blue pants without decoration or brand name

Skivvies

Plain navy blue or sky blue

Hats – to be worn from mid-August to 30 April

Navy broadbrim or legionnaires hat that shades the face, neck and ear without decoration or brand name.