

# STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Stawell West 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 Stawell West 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 school pride and connectedness
- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Stawell West 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

School's uniform please see Appendix A at the end of this Policy

### General appearance

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

- 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.

### 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.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Nails are to be kept short, no fake nails. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

## **Footwear**

Leather school shoes or shoes that allow for active participation in physical activities. High heels and open toe shoes are not acceptable.

## **Hair and Sun safety**

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice 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.

Gloves including fingerless, hats and beanies 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**

Uniform items (hats and beanies) can be purchased from the school office. The remaining items can be purchased directly from Stawell Mensland.

Stawell West Primary School's Council also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. For more information on this please contact the office.

## **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Support is available for anyone who is experiencing difficulty please contact the Principal or Business Manager for a confidential discussion of support we can provide. We are able to provide assistance for 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**

Stawell West Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through student notes and XUNO. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

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.

## **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 a departure from 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
- ask 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

Stawell West 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*.

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Reminders in our school newsletter
  - Discussed in student forums
  - Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
  - Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- 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	13th September 2022
Consultation	School Council 13th September 2022
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	13th September 2026

## APPENDIX A

### SCHOOL UNIFORM

#### SUMMER

Plain navy blue shorts/skort

White or navy blue polo shirt

Navy blue windcheater

Navy blue/black or white socks

or

Red and white check dress

Navy blue broad-brimmed or bucket hat



#### WINTER

Plain navy blue trousers

Navy blue track pants

Or

Navy blue skirt/pinafore

Navy or white polo shirt

Navy blue windcheater

Navy blue/black or white socks

School Beanie

