



Dress Code (Uniform)

1. Rationale or Purpose

This policy is concerned with encouraging children to take pride in themselves & the school without discrimination. It is believed that children are sometimes discriminated against when they do not have the same clothes as others or compete in fashion items and brand names. When there is no uniform it is difficult to establish a sense of school identity when on excursions etc. A school dress code develops a sense of pride and belonging to the school.

2. Policy Statement

All children are to wear a uniform. School uniforms are cost effective whilst giving parents and children plenty of choice through the wide range of recommended uniform clothing available. Wearing the uniform also lessens peer group pressure to keep up with the latest fashions and allows children to appreciate and enjoy their leisure clothes.

3. Implementation

- Parents are expected to maintain their children in the prescribed uniform.
- Uniform colours are navy blue and white.
- Details of specific items of uniform will be widely publicised.
- Only the South Street Logo may be used.
- Items of uniform should be readily available through the local stores, while selected new and second hand items may be available through the school.
- All clothing should be labelled with child's name to reduce the chances of loss.
- All children are to wear prescribed hats and sunscreen whilst outdoors during the summer months. (Term 1 and Term 4)
- School beanies can be worn during the colder months.
- All hats are to be removed when inside.
- All parents will be expected to buy the uniform as soon as possible for the new school year.
- Students will be expected to wear the preferred uniform each school day.
- Uniform information will be provided through the Newsletter and Information Booklet and at parent information meetings.
- All prospective students and parents will be notified of the dress code requirements prior to enrolment at our school.
- Dresses and shorts need to be at mid-thigh length.
- The disciplinary measures used to enforce our School Dress Code will be consistent with our School's Student Code of Conduct and with the State Wide Student Discipline Procedures, 1994.
- 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 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
- 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.

- The uniform will consist of:
 - Navy or White polo shirt.
 - Navy or Navy/gingham shorts.
 - Navy windcheater.
 - Navy or White cardigan or jumper.
 - White shirt.
 - Gingham dress.
 - School Sports Dress
 - Navy or white skivvy.
 - Navy trackpants.
 - A broad brimmed or bucket hat, with or without the logo.
 - Navy Blue Beanie
 - Fully enclosed shoes (No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.)

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.

Hair

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

Sunglasses

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.

Support for families experiencing difficulty.

Please contact the Principal or Welfare Officer 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/>

ADDENDUM (Added 20/3/2007)

In addition to the above the School Council wished to draw attention to the fact that external jewellery (other than sleepers and studs through the ears) is excluded at school. This has been done for safety reasons in order to protect not only the child wearing it but also other children. This is mainly for those items of jewellery such as nose rings and eyebrow bolts. Finger rings and other items of jewellery may still be worn, at the Principal's discretion.

4. Evaluation and review

This policy will be reviewed according to the School Council Calendar Policy Review

5. Definitions

Nil

6. References

Further information can be obtained on the following website:

Dress Code Legislation:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/Pages/exemptions.aspx>

Dress Code Exemptions:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/Pages/exemptions.aspx>

States School Relief

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/Pages/stateschoolsrelief.aspx>

7. School Council Ratification

This policy was ratified by School Council on 15th June 2021