



# STUDENT DRESS CODE

School Policy and Advisory Guide Reference: <a href="http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/spag.aspx">http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/Pages/spag.aspx</a>	Last updated 10/8/2022
Endorsed by Wodonga Primary School Council	August 2023
Origin	DET
Line Manager	D.Duncan
Effective Date	August 2022
Review Date	August 2023

## Introduction

The Wodonga Primary School Council ensures the Student Dress Code is in accordance with the Department of Education's (DET) Student Dress Code policy guidance.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Wodonga Primary 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 Wodonga 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 Wodonga 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 status
- 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 cost effective range of uniform choices for students.

## 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 Wodonga Primary School's school uniform items is available at Appendix A in this policy.

### **General Appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school, or participating in school activities, Wodonga 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

*This Policy pertains to all programs run/organized by Wodonga Primary School, including Out of School Hours Care, unless a more specific policy applies whereby both policies should be read in conjunction.*



## Wodonga Primary School No. 37 - Policy

- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.
- Any article of clothing deemed to be inappropriate or offensive is not permitted (this includes language or graphics on clothing, as well as the garment style). Badly damaged uniforms are also deemed inappropriate. The Principal will have the right to determine appropriateness.

### **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, however 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 nits and lice, and for student safety.

School uniform hats must be worn outside for the entirety of Terms 1 and 4 in any school year, 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. Please also refer to the school's SunSmart Policy.

Hats must not be worn inside.

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

### **Footwear**

School shoes, sport shoes or sandals that support foot development are appropriate daily footwear. Student footwear should encompass covered toes and enclosed heel. Specialised footwear should only be worn during organised special events.

## Purchase of Uniforms

New uniform items can be purchased from local retail outlets, while secondhand uniform items are available for purchase from the school office at reduced prices. The school can be contacted if uniform provision support is required.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Principal or the Business Manager to discuss support 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 at <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

## Implementation

Wodonga Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and newsletters. Where possible, the school will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties to comply with this policy.

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, the parents will be contacted by the school to determine if assistance is required. If non-compliance with



the Dress Code continues, 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 Wodonga 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 in writing 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, a written explanation will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

## Concerns about this Student Dress Code

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

## Further Information and Resources

- Sunsmart Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy

## Review Cycle

The Student Dress Code policy will be reviewed annually by the School Council in consultation with the school community, whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required.



## APPENDIX A: WODONGA PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM

### **Winter Uniform**

- \* Logo'd uniform maroon windcheater / bomber jacket / rugby top
- \* Logo'd uniform sky blue polo shirt or skivvy
- \* Maroon track pants or grey trousers
- Logo'd polar fleece vest
- WPS tartan skirt or pinafore
- Maroon/grey tights

### **Summer Uniform**

- \* Maroon shorts / skorts / skirt
- \* Logo'd uniform sky blue polo shirt
- \* Logo'd uniform sun-smart approved broad-brimmed hat
- \* Logo'd uniform broad-brimmed hat
- WPS uniform checked dress

### **Optional Logo'd Accessories**

- Winter Beanie
- Winter Scarf
- Reading Satchel
- School Bag

### **Footwear**

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Summer sandals with covered toes, black or brown school shoes or appropriate sport shoes are permitted.

Thongs or open-toed sandals are not permitted.

### **Hair Ties**

Hair ties used to tie-up hair may be worn in any colour.

### **Sports Uniform**

Wodonga Primary School's uniform is based on active-wear, and can be worn for regular PE/sport lessons. There are specific uniform requirements for students participating in specialised sports as organised by the school (eg. Winter Sports Carnival). If so, a school logo'd sports top may be provided by the school for the duration of the sports activity. All footwear should comply with sport-specific requirements.