# Woodend Primary School (Woodend Campus & Carlsruhe Annex) Student Dress Code Policy

December 2024 – December 2027



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the Principal on 54272455

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Woodend 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 Woodend 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 Woodend 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.

# **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, unless written notification is provide by the school stating exemptions.

# **UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE**

The full list of Woodend Primary School's school uniform items are available in Appendix A of this policy.

#### General appearance

While at school, or participating in school activities, Woodend 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. Coats should be removed when inside.
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- No make up, fake nails or nail polish

#### **Health and Safety**

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

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August 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 should be taken off when 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.

#### Footwear

School shoes or sneakers are required. For safety reasons, all footwear must be enclosed to protect the feet. Flat heeled boots/gumboots are acceptable.

#### **PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS**

Uniform items can be purchased from the Uniform Shop at school, or parents may order it directly online via QKR.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the <u>Help with school costs and fees</u> page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep or year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the <u>Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund</u>, you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program. Please contact the principal to discuss financial support.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Woodend Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and newsletter. 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, the class teacher will communicate with the parents so we can establish a reason and if any support is required. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and the Principal will work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Woodend 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 differently.

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
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular financial 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**

Woodend 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 <u>Complaints Policy</u>, available on our website or a hard copy from the office.

#### COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed with students in class and at Assembly
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

# **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Woodend Primary School's Sun Protection Policy
- Woodend Primary School's Complaints Policy
- Woodend Primary School's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code
- Department of Education and Training <u>Student Engagement policies and guidelines</u>.

#### **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	December 2024
Consultation	Consultation with students, parents and School Council
Mandatory	during Term 3 2024.
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review	December 2027
date	The recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3
	to 4 years.

The Department's Student Dress Code policy requires School Councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required.

# **Woodend Primary School Uniform**

