

Woodend Primary School

(Woodend Campus & Karlsruhe Annex)

Student Dress Code Policy



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 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.

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

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

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

Our uniform items are suitable for year round wear, with no distinct Summer or Winter uniform. Our uniform has our school logo.

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.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are **not** permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches (excluding smart watches) are the only acceptable jewellery.

For safety reasons, rings, necklaces and hoop/dangling ear rings are not permitted.

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 nits and lice and for student safety.

Hair bows, hair ties, scrunchies and ribbons can be worn in school colours (navy blue, light blue)

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.

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.

Second hand uniform is also available directly from the uniform shop.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal 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

Woodend Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, Facebook page and newsletter. 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.

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 and our School Wide Positive Behaviour Expectations and Behaviour Flow Chart.

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
- 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 Department's policy on [Student Dress Codes](#) requires the Principal or delegate to provide written reasons when not allowing an exemption. It also states that the Principal is responsible for managing and conducting the exemption process. In exceptional circumstances another staff member at the school or regional office may be appointed to consider an exemption request.

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 *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on our website or a hard copy from the office.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Woodend Primary School's Sun Smart Policy
- Woodend Primary School's Parent Complaint Policy
- Woodend Primary School's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was reviewed and endorsed by School Council in November 2020.

This policy is scheduled to be reviewed and updated in November 2021.

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.