

## Dress Code Policy

### Background

The School Council is responsible for developing and reviewing the Student Dress Code Policy.

This policy has been developed in accordance with the Department of Education and Training's (DET) Student Dress Code policy guidance and in consultation with the school community.

The school will ensure that the student dress code meets human rights, anti-discrimination requirements, health and safety considerations and respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The School Council has developed a dress code provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school office

### Purpose

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- Foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- Support Huntingdale 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.
- Outline the school's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes
- Adheres to the DET Policies and Values of Accountability, Respect, Integrity and Human Rights.

### Scope

At Huntingdale Primary School, the wearing of school uniform is **compulsory**.

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.



## **Implementation**

The full list of Huntingdale Primary School's uniform items is available online at:

<https://www.psw.com.au/schools/huntingdale-primary-school.html>

## **Expectations**

- All students are expected to abide by the School Dress Code Policy and will wear the school colours of teal blue and navy.
- Students can choose to wear any school uniform items that make them feel comfortable and caters for different weather conditions.
- On occasions there may be uniform-free days or variations in uniform that will be communicated to the school community in advance.
- Students must use the Huntingdale school bag.
- During art/craft activities, it is expected that children will wear protective clothing to cover their uniform.
- Students in Year 6 have the option of purchasing and wearing a specially designed jacket and polo shirt commemorating their final year of primary schooling. The design will be selected collaboratively by Year 6 students, Principal and teachers each year.

## **General appearance**

Student uniform must comply with the following:

- Be clean and in good repair
- 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 or are in navy blue or white.
- Students are encouraged to wear appropriate footwear for school activities, e.g., runners for sport, preferably in black. White or navy socks should be worn only.
- Any accessories such as tights, scarves, beanies must be navy blue.

## **Jewellery and cosmetics**

- Jewellery such as dangling earrings, necklaces are not to be worn due to safety concerns. Religious grounds will be considered.
- Studs and sleeper earrings are acceptable and the wearing of a watch (with the exception of 'smart' watches. A smart watch is one that has similar functionality to a mobile phone. These watches should be stored in the office each day as per our Mobile Devices Policy).
- The wearing of makeup is not acceptable for primary school students, except when part of a school performance or dress up event.
- Fingernails are to be without nail polish, natural and of a practical length.

## **Hair and Sun safety**

- Hair should be well groomed and with accessories in the school colours of teal blue, navy or white or in natural hair colours i.e.- no bright pink bows.
- Shoulder length or longer hair is recommended to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety.
- Students must wear a school sun-smart hat when playing outside during the months of September through to April or any other day prescribed by the school. Failure to do so will result in them being restricted to designated areas during recess & lunch times.
- School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period by students or parent choice. Hats are not to be worn while inside.



### **Purchasing Uniforms**

- Uniform items can be purchased from Primary School Wear (PSW) in Ormond or parents may order it directly online at <https://www.psw.com.au/schools/huntingdale-primary-school.html>
- From time to time the school Parents' Club- Watashi Mo may operate a second-hand uniform sale for parents. This dates and times will be advertised on Operoo

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

- Please contact the principal or Office Manager 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/>

### **Out of School Uniform**

- If a student is out of school uniform, parents must provide a written explanation as to why (either in student diary or See Saw). A note may be written to the parents in the school diary informing them of non-compliance. (Appendix 1- see example)
- If the student comes to school in clothes that are not school uniform that can be taken off (e.g., jacket, long sleeve t-shirt under a polo shirt, different hat) they will be asked to remove it.
- If a student is consistently out of school uniform, this matter will be directed to the Assistant Principal and parents will be contacted.
- If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the principal will be informed and communicate to the parents. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support the full wearing of uniform.

### **Exemptions**

- 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.



### Concerns about the Dress Code Policy

Huntingdale 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 *Complaints Resolution Policy*.

### 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 at school assembly
  - Included in staff online key documents folder
  - Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
  - Included in enrolment packs
  - Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
  - Hard copy available from school administration upon request

### Further Information and Resources

- Sunsmart Policy
- Parent Complaint Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

### Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s policy cycle or as needed to comply with DET policy changes.

### Document Status

Policy last reviewed	September 2022
Consultation	August 2016 25 July 2019- Principal review in relation to DET updates 13 September 2022- Operoo for Parent Consultation & 4 October Education and Future Directions sub committee
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	October 2025



## Appendix 1- Parent Note Example



Dear

Today                      was out of school uniform because:

As per the school's Dress Code Policy, all students must wear the school colours of teal blue and navy.

Please ensure your child is in correct uniform tomorrow.

Kind regards



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