



STUDENT DRESS CODE

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school on 9547 1224



PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Athol Road 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 Athol Road 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:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

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

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden

Health and safety

Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories, hat cords and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

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/carer 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.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the uniform shop at school. Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

Second-hand uniform items are available from the school office.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting Foundation or Year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#). The School Saving Bonus is also available to all families and can be used for uniforms.

Please contact the school office to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Athol Road Primary School will ensure that the Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our school website and school office. 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, a note will be provided to the student and parents/carers by the school. If non-compliance with the student 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 acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may impact 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 the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate 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/carer
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Athol Road 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 *Complaint 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/Sentral portal
- discussed in student forums
- included in staff handbook/manual
- 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.

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- parent/carers
- teachers and other school staff
- students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Athol Road Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Athol Road Primary School Complaint Policy
- Athol Road Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Athol Road Primary School Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- letters, emails and messages to parents/carers
- information in newsletters/Sentral Portal
- student, staff, parent surveys
- information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Consultation materials will be translated into community languages.

Policy last reviewed	June 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	June 2028

APPENDIX A: EXAMPLE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season.
- Approved commemorative uniform items such as the year 6 top are accepted as part of the uniform.

[The below uniform items and requirements are sample only]

COMPLUSORY UNIFORM ITEMS
Navy short or long sleeve polos with school logo or navy short sleeved tshirt with school logo* Plain navy shorts, track pants or skort without decoration or retail brand name* Navy polar fleece, bomber jacket or windcheater with school logo* Blue and white checked dress or navy and red checked tunic* Red or navy broadbrim hat in terms 1 and 4* Navy blue or white socks Navy blue tights
OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS
Navy blue raincoat with school logo* Plain navy skivvy Navy vest with or without school logo* Navy backpack with school logo* Navy beanie with school logo* Navy blue, green or white head bands, hair ribbons, "scrunchies"* Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs
FOOTWEAR
Appropriate footwear is to be worn including: • Closed-toe sandals • black or brown school shoes • pull on school boots • runners No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

*These items are available from [INSERT school uniform supplier]. Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.

EXAMPLE SECONDARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season.
- Approved commemorative uniform items such as the year 12 jumper is accepted as part of the uniform.

[The below uniform items and requirements are sample only]

COMPLUSORY UNIFORM ITEMS
White short or long sleeve shirt/blouse with school logo* Grey tailored shorts or trousers* Blue checked dress, tunic or skirt* Jumper, windcheater or vest with school logo* Black socks with no visible branding* Black tights
OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS
Blazer with school logo* Rain jacket with school logo* School tie* Blue skivvy Blue puffer jacket* Wide brim hat, bucket hat, or sports cap with school logo* Backpack with school logo* Beanie with school logo* Hair ties in school colours* Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs
SPORTS UNIFORM
Polo shirt with school logo* Black sports shorts, skort, track pants or leggings* Softshell jacket with school logo* There are specific uniform requirements for students participating in specialist sports such as netball, [INSERT OTHER SPORTS]. These uniforms are provided by the school for the duration of the sports season.
FOOTWEAR
Black dress shoes or all black runners with academic uniform Track shoes/runners with sports uniform
*These items are available from [INSERT school uniform supplier]. Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.