

# STUDENT DRESS CODE

## OVERVIEW

School councils have the authority to develop and implement dress codes for their students as outlined in legislation relating to dress codes.

Schools work with their school communities in:

- developing and reviewing dress codes
- implementing and enforcing dress codes

## ALL DRESS CODES MUST MEET:

- human rights and anti-discrimination requirements
- include an exemption process
- health and safety considerations
- requirements relating to uniform supply arrangements.

## UNIFORM POLICY AND GUIDELINES:

Rowellyn Park Primary School's dress code requires that at all times whilst attending school, while travelling to and from school and when students are engaged in school activities out of school that the required uniform be worn. Children who are not correctly attired will need to provide a letter of explanation from their parents. Uniform can be purchased from Beleza School Uniforms.

Uniform Garments	Colour	Special Features
Short Sleeve Polo Shirt	Maroon	Sky Blue logo
Senior polo shirt	Navy	School Leader, HPV team shirts, Year level name
Long Sleeve Polo Shirt	Maroon	Sky Blue logo
Bomber Jacket	Maroon with Navy Sleeves	Sky Blue Logo
Windcheater	Navy	Sky Blue Logo
Senior Rugby Jumper	Navy with white, sky blue and maroon detail	
Shorts	Navy	All students may wear shorts. They may be cotton inter-lock or cargo style, but must be plain navy with no additional colour, tags, zips or decorations
Tracksuit/Long Pants	Navy	All students may wear long pants, but they must be plain navy. Cargo style, stretch bootleg and track pants are all acceptable.

Summer Dress	Blue/White/Maroon Check	Girls may choose to wear navy bike shorts under their dresses, but they must not be worn lower than the hem of the dress.
Winter Tunic	Navy Tartan	School Polo Shirt may be worn under the tunic.
Navy Skirt/Skort	Navy	Girls may choose to wear navy blue box pleated skirt or skort.
Hats	Navy	Wide Brimmed or Bucket Hats Worn during Term 1 and Term 4
Shoes		Students must wear shoes that cover their toes and heels. Open toed sandals and thongs are not acceptable at any time, nor are shoes with high heels, which are deemed dangerous
Jewellery		Jewellery should not be worn to school. Exceptions are made for sleepers, studs and watches (no bolt or spacer earrings). Any other items worn for religious or sentimental reasons require a note addressed to the Principal requesting exception (no responsibility is held for theft or loss of any such items).
Hair Accessories	Navy, Maroon, Or White	Hair ties and headbands should be in school colours to compliment the uniform. Excessive use of hair gel to create elaborate hair creations is also not acceptable
Make-up	Not permitted to be worn at school	
Nail Polish/acrylic nails	Not permitted to be worn at school	
<b>Preferred Garments</b>	<b>Preferred Colour</b>	<b>Special Features</b>
Coats, gloves and scarves	Navy/Maroon	Plain only
Shoes/Boots	Black (preferred but not mandatory)	Runners should only be worn on days when PE or sport sessions are held.
Socks	White or Navy	
Assessories	Navy / dress fabric	1.e. hair ties



## DRESS CODE EXEMPTIONS

Schools must follow the exemption process outlined below to comply with obligations under human rights and anti-discrimination legislation.

Item	Description
Purpose of exemptions	Exemptions allow school councils to impose uniform standards on all students but still recognise cases in which the application of those standards affects some students unequally.
Legal grounds for exemption	Exist when an aspect of the code: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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</li><li>• offends a religious belief held by the student, parents or carers</li><li>• prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background</li><li>• the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code</li><li>• the student or the parents or carers can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.</li></ul>
Discretionary grounds for exemption	Further grounds for exemption may be allowed at the principal's discretion
About the process	<p>The exemption process should only be necessary in exceptional circumstances as a dress code should accommodate the needs of all students.</p> <p>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.</p>

## THE EXEMPTION PROCESS

Stage	Description
1	Parents, carers or students approach the principal for an exemption.
2	The principal: considers the grounds for exemption explains the exemption process to the applicant guarantees that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential encourages the applicant to support their case with evidence.
3	The principal seeks to negotiate a resolution that: is acceptable to all parties may include: a modification of the dress requirements rather than a complete exemption granting assistance to allow compliance with the dress code without embarrassment or stigma (for example, when the exemption is sought for economic purposes) conditions under which the exemption is allowed.
4	The principal: grants an exemption, or provides reasons in writing when an exemption is not granted.
5	The principal keeps a written record of all the decisions made and the reasons provided, in case a decision is questioned. <b>Note:</b> If the principal is consistently granting exemptions on similar grounds, the school should review its dress code to try to meet these needs within the code.

## IMPLEMENTING AND ENFORCING DRESS CODES

Schools must:

- communicate their dress code to the school community
- assist families having difficulties with uniform costs
- ensure that measures used to enforce the dress code are consistent with the Student Engagement and Inclusion Guidance

## COMMUNICATING THE DRESS CODE

The student dress code, including any changes in dress requirements should be:

- communicated widely throughout the school community
- provided to all prospective students and parents and carers prior to enrolment at the school
- translated into community languages, if required

- communicated via a translator, if required, for example at an information night.

**Important:** Schools should ensure that students and parents and carers are aware that they can apply to the principal for an exemption to the dress code.

## SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Schools should investigate options for supporting families who may have difficulty meeting the cost of uniform items. Schools should include information about support options or strategies in their dress code and ensure this information is communicated to the school community. Uniform can be purchased from discount shops and do not require a school logo.

The State Schools' Relief also provides assistance with school clothing and footwear via school principals. Principals assess requests for assistance and the Committee provides articles of clothing for students either directly or through an authorisation to the school clothing shop or local supplier.

## ENFORCEMENT

Schools may choose to include appropriate measures to enforce their dress code in their student engagement policy. The Student Engagement Guidelines support schools to create a positive school culture, clearly articulating school-wide expectations and consistent processes to address areas of concern in a staged manner. At Rowellyn Park Primary school, students out of uniform and without a note from their parent / guardian will lose 'house points' and be required to wear an 'out of uniform' sticker.

This table provides advice on dealing with dress code infringements.

Sanction	Advice
Withdrawal from classroom instruction (or other school activities)	<p>Students should NOT normally be excluded from class or sent home for minor infringements of the student dress code as dress code infringements are not usually linked to interference with the rights of other students or the capacity of a teacher to teach a class.</p> <p>Exceptions to this might include issues of safety or where students are representing the school.</p>
Exclusion from school (suspensions or expulsions)	Students should only be excluded from school in accordance with the obligations outlined under Ministerial Order 625,

## CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS

Parents, carers or students can:

- raise specific complaints about the dress code with the school
- suggest desired dress code changes to the school council for consideration in the next review of the dress code
- apply for an exemption, if grounds exist

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was endorsed by School Council on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019, and is due for review no later than May 2022

Date Implemented	May 2019
Author	
Approved By	School Council
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	
Date Reviewed	May 2022
Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal
Review Date	May 2025
References	

