

Student Dress Code

Date ratified: August 2021

Review date: November 2022

Purpose and rationale

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Aberfeldie Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance, and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

The Student Dress Code has been developed by Aberfeldie Primary School's School Council in consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

A uniform dress code reinforces in students, a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, culture, weather and expense are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the Dress Code.

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 and excursions.

Implementation

- The Principal is responsible for the implementation of the Student Dress Code consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.
- Arrangements can be made, at the Principal's discretion, to supply uniforms via State Schools Relief for families experiencing economic hardship (refer Appendix A).
- The Principal is responsible for the operational tasks of granting uniform exemptions consistent with the current DET student dress code (refer Appendix B).
- 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, parents/caregivers will be notified.
- If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and the school will continue to work with the student and family.

Note: Measures taken by Aberfeldie 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.

Approved uniform

<p>Logo/official school items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soft Shell Jacket (full zip) – navy with logo • Polar Fleece Jacket (full zip) – navy with logo • Short Sleeve Polo Shirt – light blue and navy with logo • Long Sleeve Polo Shirt – light blue and navy with logo • Summer Dress – navy and white check • Winter Tunic – navy and black check, with a plain navy long sleeve top underneath • Wide Brim Hat – navy with logo • Grade 5/6 only: Short sleeve sports polo – navy with logo (to be worn on Friday/sports days) • Grade 6 only: Special tops are organised to celebrate the final year of primary school. Design and type modified annually. <p>This item is under review and may be discontinued at the end of 2022 pending sales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polar Fleece Vest – navy with logo <p>These items are being phased out and will no longer be part of the Student Dress Code at the start of the 2024 school year and will not be available at Noone's when current stock runs out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugby Top – navy and light blue with logo • Polar Fleece Jacket (half zip) – navy with logo • Bomber Jacket – navy and light blue with logo 	<p>Non-logo items*:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trousers (trackpants,tights/leggings or ponte pants) – navy • Mid-Length Shorts – navy • Mid-Length Skort – navy • Mid-Length Skirt – navy • Navy Stockings/Tights (under Winter Tunic or Skirt) • Blue long sleeve top (worn under Winter Tunic) <p>*No visible logos or branding to be shown</p>
<p>Miscellaneous items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoes of any colour are permitted (e.g. runners or leather shoes) and must have covered toes (no sandals, thongs or high heels) • School bags are available with school logo and colours (but are not compulsory) • Rain jacket – preferably navy blue • Navy bike shorts may be worn <u>underneath</u> a dress, skirt or shorts • Items worn for cultural or religious reasons e.g. headscarf/hijab/turban¹ • Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears • Sunglasses are permitted during outdoor activities • Bike helmets must be worn correctly at all times when riding a bike/scooter/skateboard to and from school, as per Victorian legislation • Navy Art Smock (required for art classes) • House Sports attire: Clothing in Sports House colours may be worn, on notice from the school (Batman = green, Fawkner = blue, Flinders = red, Cook = yellow) 	

¹ APS aims to create a supportive and welcoming environment for students who wear items for approved personal, cultural or religious reasons. Enquiries regarding exemptions should be discussed with the school principal.

Purchase of uniforms

All uniforms with the Aberfeldie Primary School Logo must be purchased through the approved school supplier, Noone at their retail address: 543 Keilor Rd Niddrie. Non-logo uniform items can be purchased from other retail stores as long as the items comply with the dress code and school colours.

A second-hand uniform store for families operates throughout the year. This store is resourced through clothing donations and volunteers. For further information please contact the school office.

Sun safety

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.

Concerns about this student dress code

Aberfeldie 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 is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available from the school website.

Further information and resources

- Aberfeldie Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Aberfeldie Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Aberfeldie Primary School 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 last approved by school council in August 2021 and is scheduled for review in November 2022.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: 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://ssr.net.au/>

APPENDIX B: 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 in writing 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 decision 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.