



# Highvale Primary School Student Dress Code Policy

Reviewed: February 2025

Next Review: February 2028

Review Cycle: 3-4 years

Communication Method: Website, Newsletter, Compass 'School Documentation

Minimum Standards



## Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Highvale Primary School on 9887 8000.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Highvale 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 Highvale Primary School's 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 Example 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.

## 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

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

### **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 for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Any make up or nail polish must be natural/neutral tones only

### **Health and safety**

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories 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 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 Main Office at Highvale Primary School.

Highvale Primary School Parents' Club also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Information regarding this comes through Compass and the School Newsletter.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. 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 prep 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 (ASU) program.

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

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Highvale Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, Compass and the School Newsletter. 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 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.

## EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently.

Students and their parents or carers may apply 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 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/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 THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Highvale 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 School Website.

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- 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

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Highvale Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Highvale Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Highvale 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](#).

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

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

## APPENDIX A: EXAMPLE SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

The below uniform items and requirements are sample only:

### All year round

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

#### Jumper or Vest

Green polar fleece with school logo

Navy polar/vest fleece with school logo

#### Polo shirts

Green long and short sleeved with school logo.

#### Skorts

Plain navy skorts without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with navy blue tights/stockings.

#### Pants

Plain, navy blue track pants without decoration or brand name

#### Socks or tights/stockings

Navy blue or white socks

Navy blue tights/stockings

#### Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Summer sandals with covered toes, black or brown school shoes or pull on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

#### School Raincoat (Optional Item)

Navy Blue coat with red collar and school logo

#### Headwear

Navy blue, green or white head bands, hair ribbons, "scrunchies" or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

### Summer Uniform – to be worn in Terms 1 and 4

#### Dresses

Summer blue and white checked dress

#### Shorts

Plain navy blue shorts without decoration or brand name

### Winter Uniform – to be worn in Term 2 and 3

#### Skivvies

Plain green skivvy

### Hats – to be worn from mid-August to 30 April

Navy broadbrim without decoration or brand name.

### Sports uniform

Green polo top with navy blue shorts/skirt/skort.

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.