

2025

# School Dress Code and Uniform Policy

Bagdad Primary School

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## 1. Purpose

The purpose of a School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy (the Policy) is to promote social equity in terms of clothing, assisting school staff in easily identifying students and enhancing the sense of pride within a school. The Policy is in accordance with [\*Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code\*](#) and developed in consultation with the School Association and students.

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Promote a shared sense of school identity and ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- Strengthen the profile and identity of the school and its students within the broader community
- Assist school staff to easily identify students on school excursions and on the school campus
- Encourage students to take pride in their appearance
- Prepare learners for the expectations of the workplace
- Identify the process for establishing a dress code, or uniform and who is required to wear one
- Identify the process for granting exemptions to a dress code or uniform.

## 2. Policy Statement

### 2.1 Key Information

- State schools for students from Prep to Year 10 inclusive must have a school uniform. It is a requirement that these students wear the uniform their school endorses.
- To ensure that the requirements of [\*Education Act 2016\*](#) and the Secretary's Instruction are met, the school must:
  - » Allow exemptions and/or criteria to evaluate applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy, where individual circumstances make it difficult to adhere to the Policy and would outweigh the benefits of compliance.
  - » Provide students with unisex options in addition to any male and female specific items.
  - » Endorse a uniform that is cost effective. (Schools should consider providing uniform banks to support families experiencing hardship to meet uniform requirements.)
- A principal with students enrolled outside of Prep to Year 10 can choose to require all students to wear the uniform. This must be established through a dress code and must include consultation with the School Association and students.
- Consultation with the School Association can be done by requesting the School Association Committee to include dress code/uniform as an agenda item at a committee meeting. The school can promote that consultation is underway and invite parents to provide feedback through the Committee.
- A dress code may stipulate requirements around personal appearance and grooming.
- When introducing a new dress code or uniform, a transition period of 12 months is recommended to allow time for the Policy to be understood and adhered to.

### 2.2 Requirements

The Policy applies during school activities (including out-of-hours or off-site activities), on school campus and while travelling to or from school (while wearing school uniform), unless an exemption has been granted.

## 2.3 Roles and responsibilities

### Principals

Principals must:

- Have a uniform for students from Prep to Year 10 inclusive.
- Detail the process for exemptions from the dress code or uniform.
- Detail a review process for any applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy.
- Detail how non-compliance with dress code or uniform will be dealt with under the school's Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process.
- Consult with the School Association when developing a dress code or uniform; and
- Consult with students when developing a dress code or uniform.

Principals may:

- Develop and implement a dress code.

Where the decision is made to develop a dress code, a principal must:

- Ensure compliance with legislation including: [Education Act 2016](#) (Tas), [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (Cth), [Sex Discrimination Act 1984](#) (Cth), [Anti-Discrimination Act 1998](#) (Tas) and [Racial Discrimination Act 1975](#) (Cth);
- Consult with their School Association and students to ensure the Policy reflects the views of the school; and
- Include requirements on the wearing of hats in line with the [Cancer Council of Tasmania's 'Sun Smart' Program](#). (See the [Sun Protection Policy](#) for further information.)

### Teaching Staff

Teaching staff must:

- Ensure compliance with any dress code and uniform by following the processes established by the school to address non-compliance.

### Parents/Carers and Students

Parents/carers and students must:

- Ensure compliance with the Policy or apply for an exemption.

## 2.4 Uniform Items

The **Everyday Uniform** for all students in Kindergarten to Year 6 consists of the following items available from the school store:

- Full-length dark black pants or black shorts
- Maroon polo shirt
- School dress
- Maroon jumper or maroon zip up fleece jacket
- Leavers top for current Year 6 students
- Hat (school hat or another broad brimmed hat)

The **footwear** to accompany the Everyday Uniform can be suitable (non-marking) sports shoes or black enclosed shoes.

## 2.5 Requirements

### Uniform Requirements

If you need support with your child's uniform, you can talk to your child's teacher or principal to discuss your family's eligibility for support or assistance in the purchase of school uniforms.

The uniform requirements are:

- The Everyday Uniform must be worn each day.
- The Everyday Uniform must be worn for excursions (except where specified).
- Closed shoes must be always worn during school activities (except where otherwise permitted by staff).

### Sun Smart Policy

- Staff and students are encouraged to check and record the sun protection times daily at <http://www.cancertas.org.au/>, <http://www.bom.gov.au/tas/uv/>, [www.myuv.com](http://www.myuv.com) or on the free SunSmart app.
- In Tasmania average peak UV levels reach 3 and above from September to April. Staff and students will use the following sun protection measures when UV levels are 3 and above:

#### Shade

- The school community is committed to providing shade in areas where students gather such as for eating, outdoor teaching, and popular play areas.
- Students are actively encouraged to use available areas of shade when outdoors.
- Availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities. A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade. Students without a sun-safe hat or clothing must remain in the shade.

#### Hats

- All students and teachers are required to wear sun-safe hats that protect the face, neck, and ears when outside. Recommended sun-safe hats include legionnaire, broad-brimmed and bucket hats. Caps and sun visors do not offer enough protection and are not recommended.
- Students who do not have hats on are required to play under the Gazebo during break times.

#### Clothing

- Sun-safe clothing is included in the school uniform. This includes shirts with collars, sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or T-shirts for outdoor swimming.
- Clothing exposing large amounts of shoulder and upper torso (singlets, tank tops and strappy dresses) are not suitable.

#### Sunscreen

- The use of broad-spectrum, water-resistant, SPF 30 or higher sunscreen is encouraged for staff and student use.
- Students are encouraged to provide their own broad-spectrum, water-resistant SPF 30 or higher sunscreen.
- Sunscreen is also available and accessible for use at the school in places such as each classroom and at the school office.
- Students are asked to apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every 2 hours when outside for long periods (more frequently if swimming and sweating).
- Sunscreen should be stored in a cool, dry place and the expiry date monitored. The office will do a sunscreen audit at the start of each term.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Students are encouraged to apply sunscreen before they come to school with parent assistance.
- Teachers and Teacher Assistants will assist younger students applying sunscreen only if necessary.
- Students with Needs Based Adjustments who have Teacher Assistant support will receive assistance in applying their sunscreen.

#### Sunglasses

- Close-fitting wrap-around sunglasses that comply with Australian Standards 1067 (Category 2, 3 or 4) are encouraged but optional.

## 2.6 Dress code

The following requirements apply in relation to:

- Jewellery such as sleepers and studs are acceptable in ears. Studs are acceptable in noses as sleepers pose a risk of being torn out. Other dangling earrings must not be worn.
- Make-up is not to be worn by any student.
- Footwear must comply with uniform requirements
- Warm jackets and raincoats can be worn outside during cold or wet days. These are to be removed once student goes into the classroom.

## 2.7 Exemptions

Parents may seek an exemption from compliance with elements of the school's Policy. This will be granted where the principal considers that it is in the best interests of the student to allow such an exemption. When deciding whether to grant an exemption, the principal will consider:

- Offering a grace period for new students starting partway through the school year to comply with the Policy and acquire any uniform items.
- Religious beliefs, cultural background and/or individual needs (e.g., sensory issues).
- Uniform exemptions may be granted for 'free dress day'. Free dress clothing must be sun safe, should not display inappropriate or offensive logos, images or slogans, and closed-toe footwear must be worn.
- Uniform exemptions may be required for specific school activities where it would not be appropriate for a student to be in uniform/comply with dress code (i.e., swimming, surfing, farming/ agriculture) or where uniform would not be visible due to protective or specialised clothing (i.e. automotive, trades or chemistry).

#### Requesting an exemption

To request an exemption a parent/carer or independent student must:

- speak to your child's teacher or grade leader.
- list any requirements that are of concern; and
- nominate the requested length of exemption from the requirements.

For exemptions requested for five or less consecutive school days, the principal must:

- consider the request and notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.

For exemptions requested for more than five consecutive school days, the principal must:

- respond in writing to notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- include the timeframes if an exemption is granted.
- maintain a record of the exemption in the student's file; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.>

## 2.8 Non-compliance with dress code or uniform

- Responses to non-compliance with the Policy should not interfere with student learning, unless necessary for student safety.
- Students should not be penalised for circumstances beyond control of them and/or their parent/carer (i.e. lack of availability of a uniform item).
- See the [Respectful Student Behaviour Policy](#) and [Process](#) for further information on how to manage non-compliance with the Policy.

## 3. Related policies

Policy	Purpose
<a href="#">Sun Protection Policy</a>	To set out the matters that a principal is to take into account in developing a dress code for the students at their school
<a href="#">Respectful Student Behaviour Policy</a> and <a href="#">Process</a>	When addressing non-compliance with the student dress code or uniform, a principal should refer to their <i>Respectful Student Behaviour Policy</i> and <i>Process</i> .

## 4. Supporting information/tools

Supporting Document	Purpose
<a href="#">Template School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy</a>	A template School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy that a principal can use to insert their school specific information (identified by orange headings).
<a href="#">Checklist for School Student Dress Code and Uniform</a>	The (attached) Checklist can be used to ensure a dress code or uniform policy is compliant with the legislation and Secretary's Instruction.
<a href="#">FAQ for Schools on Dress Code and Uniform Policy</a>	Answers to school's frequently asked questions on dress code and uniform.
<a href="#">Parent Fact Sheet: Dress Code and Uniforms in Tasmanian Government Schools</a>	An electronic and printable fact sheet schools can provide to parents about dress code and uniforms.

## 5. Definitions

### Dress Code

Dress code means a set of requirements for how students should present themselves when attending or representing their school. As well as specifying clothing, a dress code may include personal presentation and appearance. There is no requirement for a school to have a dress code; however, if a school has a dress code:

For students in Prep to Year 10 it includes the wearing of a uniform.

For students in Kindergarten, and years 11 and 12 it may include a standard of dress and/or uniform.

### Uniform

Uniform means a distinct set of clothing worn by members of the same organisation and may include a school emblem and colour scheme. A uniform is required for students in Prep to Year 10.

## 6. Legislation

Instrument	Purpose
<a href="#">Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code</a>	To set out the matters that a principal is to consider in developing a dress code for the students at their school.

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