



Norwood Primary School Dress Code and Uniform Policy

TABLE OF CONTENTS

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1.	Purpose	3
2.	Policy Statement.....	3
3.	Related policies	6
4.	Supporting information/tools.....	6
5.	Definitions.....	6
6.	Legislation.....	7

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** consists of the following items available from Midford School Wear:

- Navy track pants, shorts or skort
- Green polo top
- Green rugby jumper
- Green half zip jumper
- Navy polar fleece jumper
- Navy softshell jacket

- Navy or white socks
- Navy hat
- Navy beanie (May - End of August)
- Black or navy shoes are preferred, shoes must be enclosed

Optional items are

- Summer and winter dresses

* Note - as we transition in to the new uniform the old uniform items of blue button up shirts blue and white polo tops and grey pants/shorts are acceptable - we anticipate a full transition may take up to 18 months.

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 School Uniform must be worn for excursions (except where specified) and when representing the school
- Closed shoes must be worn at all times during school activities (except where otherwise permitted by staff).

The school has limited second-hand uniform items for sale through the office.

Sun smart policy

- School hats must be worn September - April

2.6 Dress code

The following requirements apply in relation to:

- Jewellery - students wearing unacceptable jewellery will be asked to remove it, it will be stored in the office until the end of the day when the student or parent can collect it
 - » students are only permitted to wear studs or small sleepers
 - » students are permitted to wear watches
 - » students are not permitted to wear necklaces or bracelets - Medical Alert necklaces and/or bracelets ARE permitted
- Make-up - is not acceptable and should not be worn to school
- Footwear - closed toe at all times
- Fingernails should be kept a safe length and nail polish should not be worn
- Puffer jackets (in conjunction with jumpers) can be worn to and from school and during break times but must not be worn in class
- Leggings are not permitted as a pant/trouser option they may only be worn under the school dress/tunic/skirt - navy only - other colours not permitted at any time

2.7 Non-compliance with dress code or uniform

- 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) or for personal circumstances which may not allow them access to the uniform
- Senior Staff will follow up with parents where the uniform policy is consistently breached without reason

3. Related policies

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

4. Supporting information/tools

Supporting Document	Purpose
Template School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy	A template School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy that a principal can use to insert their school specific information (identified by orange headings).
Checklist for School Student Dress Code and Uniform	The (attached) Checklist can be used to ensure a dress code or uniform policy is compliant with the legislation and Secretary's Instruction.
FAQ for Schools on Dress Code and Uniform Policy	Answers to school's frequently asked questions on dress code and uniform.
Parent Fact Sheet: Dress Code and Uniforms in Tasmanian Government Schools	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
<u>Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code</u>	To set out the matters that a principal is to take into account in developing a dress code for the students at their school.

Authorised by: Anita Griffin, Director, Strategic Policy and Planning

Contact: Strategic Policy and Planning, strategicpolicyandplanning@education.tas.gov.au

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