Respect, Responsibility and Resilience
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Werrimull P-12 School - Student Dress Code

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Werrimull P-12 School on 03 5028 1251 or werrimull.p12@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Werrimull P-12'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 Werrimull P-12 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 Werrimull P-12 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.
- To provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment.

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

The full list of Werrimull P-12 School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

Technology Classes

- Students must wear enclosed leather footwear when working in the Technology rooms

All other safety equipment will be provided by the school

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 or 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.

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology classes where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

School uniform hats must be worn outside. 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 school office.

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. Students may also be eligible for assistance to access uniform through other funding or grants available to the school. The school will provide up to $100 worth of uniform items to families each year from our uniform shop.

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

IMPLEMENTATION

Werrimull P-12 School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and 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 either in writing or in person 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

Werrimull P-12 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 https://www.werrp12.vic.edu.au/uploaded_files/media/templatecomplaints.docx.pdf .

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Werrimull P-12 School Sunsmart Policy
- Werrimull P-12 School Parent Complaint Policy
- Werrimull P-12 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	6/8/2025
Consultation	School Council and parent community
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	8/2026

[NOTE: The department's Student Dress Code policy requires School Councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required].

APPENDIX A: WERRIMULL P-12 SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

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

Jumper or Vest
Navy polarfleece vest or jumper with or without school logo

Polo shirts
Navy long and short sleeved with or without school logo.

Pants
Plain, black, navy or grey track pants, skirts or shorts without decoration or brand name

Dresses
Summer blue and white checked dress

Tights/stockings
Navy blue tights/stockings

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

Headwear
Elastic Bands, ribbons and scrunchies used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Hats
Navy broadbrim without decoration or brand name

Sports

There are specific uniform requirements for students participating in specialist sports such as netball or athletics. These uniforms are provided by the school for the duration of the sports season or event.

Technology Classes
Students must wear enclosed leather footwear when working in the Technology rooms. All other safety equipment will be provided by the school.