

1. Rationale:

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, and expense are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the Dress Code.

2. Aims:

- To promote equality amongst all students.
- To further develop a sense of pride in, and identification with our school.
- To provide a school uniform that is practical, comfortable, attractive and affordable
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community.

3. Implementation:

- 3.1 After broad consultation with the school community, School Council developed a Dress Code that provides choice for the students, allows for students to safely engage in the many varied school activities, and caters for the financial constraints of families.
- 3.2 The Dress Code applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when students are on school excursions.
- 3.3 Summer and winter uniforms will be prescribed, and are required to be worn. Sports uniforms provided for interschool sports teams remain the property of the school.
- 3.3.1 Stud earrings and small sleepers worn only in the ears, plus watches are the only acceptable Jewellery. Tattoos are not permitted.
- 3.3.2 Extreme hair colours (eg: green, pink or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (eg: patches of colour, or Mohawks) are not permitted.
- 3.3.3 Other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school.
- 3.3.4 The only headwear that is acceptable is a SunSmart hat consistent with our SunSmart policy. Hats must be worn outside from Term 1, Term 2 (until the end of April), Term 3 (start 1st September) and Term 4.
Hats are not to be worn inside. (An exemption is made for religious scarves; however these should be black, white or green to fit in with the uniform colours).
- 3.4 The Uniform Shop is pleased to accept second hand uniform items in good condition. These will be used for emergency situations where clothing is needed or when the Principal determines that a family requires assistance. They will also be available for purchase at \$5.00 per item.
- 3.5 The student Dress Code, including details of uniform items, will be available on the school's website, and is included in Foundation and new student enrolment packs.
- 3.6 School Council requires the Principal be responsible for implementation of the Dress Code in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.
- 3.7 Arrangements can be made to supply uniforms via State Schools Relief for families experiencing economic hardship.
- 3.8 Parents seeking exemptions to the Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the School Council.

4. Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the annual parent opinion survey, specific surveys aimed at determining the level of support for specific uniform items and by School Council as required.
- Consideration will be given to the level of support given to the uniform policy by the number of issues raised compared to the level of compliance relating to wearing the school uniform.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

School Council policy is that the school uniform is compulsory. All children from Years Foundation - 6 are required to wear only the official school uniform as per the following list. Parents need to be aware that failure by children to wear the school uniform may result in parents being contacted or a uniform infringement note being given to the child.

As part of the school uniform, **all children are required to wear a school uniform black bucket sun hat** in Term 1, (until the end of April), Term 3 (start 1st September) and Term 4.

Caps are not acceptable as they do not provide adequate protection from the sun's harmful rays. If a child does not wear a hat during the summer months, they will be required to sit in a designated shade area. Full parental support is required in this matter. It is important that our children realise the serious risk of skin cancer resulting from over exposure to the sun.

The following items are available for sale from the uniform retailer. These can be purchased directly from Academy Uniforms located at 238 Woseley Place Thomastown or purchases can be made on their website www.academyuniforms.com.au.

Short Sleeve Polo Top – with school logo
Long Sleeve Polo Top – with school logo
Windcheaters – with school logo
Bomber Jackets – with school logo
Shorts - black
Skorts - black
Summer Dress - the Summer Dress may be worn with black leggings or black tights
Straight Leg Pants - black
Streetwear Pants - black
Tracksuit Pants - black
Summer Hat Bucket Style – with school logo
Winter Hat Beanie – with school logo
Art Smocks
School Bags – with school logo
Library Bags – with school logo
Scarf

Not available from Academy Uniforms, but included in the Dress Code:

Black shoes, boots, sandals with toe area covered or runners black or white (or a combination of both).
Black or white laces. No bright coloured footwear
Socks – white or black

Summer Hats Bucket Style are available from the School Office – order through Qkr.

Hair ties, hair bands and head scarves may be, black, white or dark green.

Students with pierced ears are permitted to wear gold or silver studs or sleepers **only**.

School windcheaters, tracksuit pants, polo shirts, shorts, bomber jackets, hats, beanies, art smocks and school bags can all be ordered through Academy Uniforms.

References and Related Documents:

- *Policy Advisory Guide – Student Dress Code*
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy>
- *School values of Responsibility, Resilience, Respect, Honesty, Responsibility, Learning*

This policy was ratified by School Council in February 2021