



STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

RATIONALE

A uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instills 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.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Ashwood 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 Ashwood School's 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 Ashwood 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.

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

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 Ashwood School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

VRQA Registration Requirements for Victorian Government Schools

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Ashwood School students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun safety

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

School uniform hats must be worn outside in Terms 1 and 4 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 to be worn outside.

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 at school.

Ashwood School Parents and Friends Association will sell good quality second hand uniforms.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Ashwood School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through the parents' information manual on enrolment. Students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy will be assisted where possible.

Students wearing non uniform items may be asked to change into an item of clothing provided by the school.

VRQA Registration Requirements for Victorian Government Schools

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. Measures taken by Ashwood School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

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

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

Ashwood 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*.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student department meetings/ meetings
- 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

- Ashwood School's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Ashwood School's Complaints Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

REVIEW CYCLE

Policy last reviewed	09/09/2021
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	09/09/2025



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Ashwood School 9808 7444].

APPENDIX A: ASHWOOD SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

The below uniform items and requirements:

SUMMER	Girls	Primary	Secondary	STEPS	
		Dress	Dress	Dress	
		Jade Polo shirt	White Shirt	White Shirt	
		Navy Shorts	Navy Shorts	Navy Shorts	
		Black shoes	Black shoes	Black shoes	
		Navy Hat	Navy Hat	Navy Hat	
SUMMER	Boys	Jade Polo shirt	White shirt	White shirt	
		Navy Shorts	Navy Shorts	Navy shorts	
		Black shoes	Black shoes	Black shoes	
		Navy Hat	Navy Hat	Navy Hat	
WINTER	Girls	Jade Polo shirt	White Shirt	White shirt	
		Windcheater/Bomber Jacket	Rugby top Stadium rain jacket	Navy-V-necked Windcheater Stadium rain jacket	
		Navy track pants	Navy Gabardine pants	Navy Gabardine pants	
			Skirt (navy tights or long socks)	Skirt (navy tights or long socks)	
		Black shoes	Black shoes	Black shoes	
	WINTER	Boys	Jade polo shirt	White Shirt	White shirt
			Windcheater/Bomber jacket	Rugby top Stadium rain jacket	Navy V-necked Windcheater Stadium rain jacket
			Navy track pants	Navy Gabardine pants	Navy gabardine pants
			Black shoes	Black shoes	Black shoes

ALL SENIOR STUDENTS

- Navy track suit pants for sports day – Friday.
- House coloured polo shirts worn for fitness and sport.
- Year 12 Polo Shirts