

Student Dress Code



PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Bellbridge Primary School requirements for student dress and appearance, as well as provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Bellbridge Primary 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 Bellbridge Primary 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

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Bellbridge Primary 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
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden

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

Hair and Sun Smart

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

School uniform hats must be worn outside during Terms 1 & 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 not to be worn inside.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should meet the Australian Standards and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM NOONE IMAGEWEAR – Old Geelong Rd, Hoppers Crossing

Uniform items can be purchased from Noone Imagewear. Uniform items may be purchased elsewhere provided they are of matching colour.

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.

Bellbridge Primary School also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Bellbridge Primary 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.

THE DRESS CODE

- School colours are red, navy blue and pale blue.
- Use of the school logo is to be encouraged, but is not mandatory.
- Track pants, shorts – navy blue.
- Jacket, windcheater – red.

- Bomber jacket – red with blue sleeves.
- School dress.
- Hat – navy blue – bucket shape, legionnaire’s hat or broad brim. *(A hat is to be worn in Terms 1 and 4 in line with the SunSmart Policy. Children without hats will be confined to the shade in the courtyard during recess and lunch times.)*
- Items of clothing such as vests, scarves, beanies etc. will be acceptable if in school colours, i.e. navy blue, red, pale blue.
- Navy blue bike shorts or leggings may be worn under school dresses.
- The school will provide the option of “Class of ” tops for Grade 6 children.
- Appropriate footwear is to be worn, i.e. no thongs, open toed shoes, slippers or platform shoes.
- Any jewellery worn is to be appropriate (i.e. watch, stud/sleeper earrings) with student safety to be the main consideration. Please note: The school can accept no responsibility for any injuries caused as a result of children having body piercings.
- Hair that is longer than shoulder length needs to be tied up, e.g. pony tail, plait.
- No tattoos, makeup, outrageous hair colours or nail polish are acceptable at school, including nail attachments.
- Hoods on ‘hoodies’ are to be worn off the head whilst at school.
- No inappropriate messages are to be worn on clothing on ‘out of uniform’ days.
- Shoulders are to be covered at all times.

ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM NOONE IMAGEWEAR – Old Geelong Rd, Hoppers Crossing

- Track pants, shorts
- Windcheater and Bomber Jacket with logo
- Dresses, netball skirts
- Polo shirts – short and long sleeved
- School bags, Art Smocks, Library bags

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 an exemption from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate particular economic 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.

[NOTE: The Department's policy on [Student Dress Codes](#) requires the Principal or delegate to provide written reasons when not allowing an exemption. It also states that the Principal is responsible for managing and conducting the exemption process. In exceptional circumstances another staff member at the school or regional office may be appointed to consider an exemption request.]

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Bellbridge Primary School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Bellbridge Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Bellbridge Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

REVIEW CYCLE

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council in JULY 2022 and is scheduled for review in 2023. [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].