



Footscray North Primary School Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Footscray North Primary 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 Footscray North 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
- allow all students to feel equal
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities

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, 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, provided these undergarments are completely hidden or are in school colours (navy and white)
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery

Health and safety

Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories, hat cords and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) to 30 April and on any other day prescribed by the school. School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parent/carer or student choice.

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's online uniform shop (please refer to our website for current information). Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

From time to time, a second-hand uniform store for parents/carers is held. The school will accept donations of second hand uniforms throughout the year. Information will be shared via Sentral.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. 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 program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

Please contact a member of the leadership team to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Footscray North Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website and shared with parents regularly via Sentral. 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, the class teacher will contact the family of the student to understand potential solutions, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may 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 the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate 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
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Footscray North Primary 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 *Complaint Policy*, available via our website.

COMMUNICATION

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

- available publicly on our school's website
- reminders in our school newsletter
- discussed in student forums
- discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- hard copy available from school administration upon request.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Footscray North Primary School Sun Protection Policy (available on our website)
- Footscray North Primary School Complaint Policy (available on our website)
- Footscray North Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy (available on our website)
- Footscray North Primary School Inclusion and Diversity Policy (available on our website)
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- messages to parents/carers
- focus groups
- information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

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| Policy last reviewed | August 2025 |
| Approved by | School Council 25th August 2025 |
| Next scheduled review date | August 2028 (noting that the recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 to 4 years) |

APPENDIX A: FOOTSCRAY NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season.
- Approved commemorative uniform items such as the year 6 top are accepted as part of the uniform.

| APPROVED UNIFORM ITEMS |
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| Navy or white short or long sleeve polos with school logo* Plain navy shorts, track pants or skort without decoration or retail brand name* Navy jumper (wooler or windcheater) or jacket with school logo* Blue and white checked dress or navy tunic Blue dress with school logo Navy (or light blue for preps) broadbrim hat in terms 1 and 4* Navy blue or white socks Navy blue tights or leggings Navy (or Prep issued) hat with school logo* |
| OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS |
| Navy blue raincoat with school logo* House coloured T-Shirt (option to be worn when notified)* Plain navy or white skivvy Navy backpack with school logo* Navy or white headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs |
| FOOTWEAR |
| Appropriate footwear is to be worn including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Black school shoes<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Closed-toe○ can be runner/sneaker styles or traditional leather shoes● Runners for days children have sports or PE No thongs, slides or open-toed sandals are permitted. |

*These items are available from FCW (please use the link on the FNPS website). Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.