



POLICY DOCUMENT

Dress Code - Students

Responsibility: Principal
Revised: 2023
Next Review: 2024

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mill Park 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 Mill Park 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 Mill Park 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

Mill Park Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Mill Park 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 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.



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School uniform hats must be worn outside from 3rd Monday in August 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 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 Northern Regional Uniform in South Morang.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Assistant Principal or Business Manager 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.

IMPLEMENTATION

Mill Park 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.

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

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 Mill Park Primary 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
- 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:



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- 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

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

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Mill Park Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Mill Park Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Mill Park 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](#).

GUIDELINES:

- The uniform is compulsory.
- Norther Regional Uniforms will be engaged to supply uniform items to the school community.
- Students are required to wear school uniform when attending excursions. Students not in full uniform will not be invited to attend the excursion.
- Children competing in Interschool and District sports events or representing the school at music performances and excursions will be required to wear the specified uniform items.
- The colour scheme of navy blue will be the prime focus of our uniform.
- The uniform should be smart, durable, safe and comfortable.
- Wherever possible articles of uniform will be gender inclusive.
- For any social, religious or cultural reasons, an exemption may be granted by discussing such issues with the Principal.
- In times of financial difficulty, parents will be encouraged to make arrangements with the Assistant Principal or the Business Manager regarding provision of uniform items for their children.
- For health and safety reasons some decisions regarding dress will be made by the Principal and publicised in the newsletter.
- Parents will continually be informed about school uniform issues. Information and regulations from the DET relating to uniforms will be given to community members, as they become available.
- New items of uniform will be approved by School Council.
- Any changes/deletion of uniform will be approved by School Council.
- In the parents' interest all endorsed items of uniform will remain in operation for at least three years.
- School uniform items shall be plain, with no other obvious colour logos or decorative items added.
- Windcheaters, polar fleece jackets, scarves, beanies, hats and navy long and short sleeve polos will be required to have a school logo present.
- Basic black footwear and neutral sport trainers should be suitable and safe for all weather, sport and play. For issues of safety, thongs, sandals, clogs, dress shoes, shoes with high heels or platform shoes are not allowed. Children are expected to wear socks as part of the uniform for health and safety reasons. Dark navy tights may be worn with dresses in winter.
- The only acceptable jewellery items are watches, stud earrings, small sleepers, and plain signet rings. A maximum of two earrings per ear is allowed. Other piercings such as nose, lip, eyebrow or any other visible piercings are not to be worn at school.



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- Hair accessories should be in school colours and flat to the head. Scrunchies, flat headbands and bobby pins are allowed. Butterfly clips, hair extensions and extreme hair colours (e.g. green, pink, or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (e.g. Mohawks) are not permitted.
- Scarves and any other head coverings must be in navy.
- Make up is inappropriate and should not be worn at school. Clear nail polish is allowed **not** coloured.
- School hats will be compulsory between beginning of September and end of April to maximise protection from the sun (in line with Cancer Council of Australia research findings).
- Navy beanies and scarves may be worn between May and August.
- School uniform will be required to be worn until the last day of the year, except for approved out of uniform days.
- Children who are consistently out of uniform and do not provide a note from parents will be provided with uniform from the second hand cupboard for the day.
- Year 6 commemorative graduation garments will be reviewed every three years in consultation with students from Year levels 3 – 5 and School Council.
- House coloured T-Shirts to be worn on Physical Education days and whole school sporting event days.

Approved Items

Girl's summer dress	Crew neck windcheater – unisex	Beanie
Girl's bike shorts	Girl's box pleated tunic	Wide brimmed hat
Cotton back short sleeve polo – unisex	Girl's box pleated winter skirt	Bucket hat
Cotton back shorts – unisex	Fleecy straight leg track pants – unisex	Legionnaire hat
Gabardine shorts – unisex	Cotton back long sleeve polo – unisex	Acrylic scarf
Girl's skort	Waterproof jacket with hood – unisex	School bag
Polo fleece jacket – unisex		Multi-purpose bag
Bomber jacket – unisex		Primary book bag
		Art smock – unisex

Non Approved items

Pants with obvious decoration, i.e., zippered and/ or buttoned sides, cargo pants, jeans, flared pants, parachute pants.

Guidelines for Out of School Uniform days

Out of School Uniform Days are a lot of fun for students at Mill Park Primary School and usually occur once a term.

School Council appreciates students' adherence to these guidelines. We are striving to ensure that students have fun on these days and that they are also safe from potential accidents, which could otherwise be avoided by wearing appropriate out of uniform clothing.

Parents and students need to keep in mind that the children's timetables do not change on these special days. This means that students may still have PE or Art etc. They may also be playing an outside game with their class or participating in creative activities in their classrooms. This may mean that they will be running around playing games or even painting, using glue or clay.

Mill Park Primary School is also a 'Sun Smart' school which means that it is compulsory for children to wear a hat from the start of September to the end of April.

School Council recommends that on Out of School Uniform Days parents take care to ensure that their child:



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1. Wears activity appropriate shoes on the day - 'fashion' shoes with chunky or high heels can be dangerous during physical activity sessions, even at recess and lunchtimes
2. Wears tops/t-shirts which cover the midriff area and as much of the shoulders as possible
3. Wears comfortable and sensible pants/skirts/ shorts to school. E.g. 'Hipsters' or mini-skirts or mini shorts are not appropriate when your child is sitting on the floor or participating in PE
4. Does not wear T-Shirts with inappropriate language or symbols on them
5. Wears any hat of their choice on the day

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Northern Regional Uniforms will have total ownership of the uniform shop and will supply and maintain all aspects of managing the uniform shop, including stock supply, staffing, orientation programme and distribution of promotional materials.
- A 5% royalty of all sales is paid directly to the school twice a year.
- Items of school uniform will be available from the Northern Regional uniform shop.
- Commemorative windcheaters and polo shirts will be offered as an additional uniform item to Year 6 students at the end of Year 5.
- For students not wearing uniform, parents will be required to supply a note on that day.
- For students who are constantly out of uniform and their dress code is of concern, a call will be made to the home.

EVALUATION:

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2022
Consultation	Leadership Team, Staff, School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review	March 2026