



STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office on 9569 5820.

Purpose

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

The dress code has been developed by Malvern Valley Primary School's School Council 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 encourage students to develop pride in their appearance.
- Support Malvern Valley Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- Maintain and enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.
- Provide a recognisable uniform that provides a form of student safety and group security when students are attending school organised off site activities or events (eg. excursions).

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 travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

Uniform and Appearance

The full list of Malvern Valley Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

General Appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Malvern Valley 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.

- Black school shoes are to be worn with summer and winter uniforms. Shoes may be 'traditional style' or 'runner style' however they must be 100% black and free from different coloured logos/branding.
- Grade 3 - 6 students can wear runners and white socks with their sports uniform, only on days of Physical Education lessons, Interschool Sports days or other sports activities that have been deemed acceptable by their classroom teachers.
- Red beanies can be worn outside in winter months as a substitute for a hat.
- Undergarments or compression garments may be worn with the sports uniform and visible, however, must be the same colour of the uniform worn and free from logos/branding. For example, in winter a student can wear a white long-sleeved undergarment under the short sleeved sports uniform t-shirt for additional warmth.
- If an additional jacket or external layer is required, students can wear the sport/rain jacket over the uniform bomber jacket, not as a replacement.
- Grade 6 students are permitted to wear their Grade 6 rugby jumper as part of their uniform on all days.

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. Should special consideration be sought, the children's parents must write a letter to the Principal.

Cosmetics, including coloured nail polish, cannot be worn at school.

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. Headbands and hair ties must be black, red, white or grey.

Extreme hair colours (eg. green, pink or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (eg. spikes or Mohawks) are not permitted, unless as part of a school event (eg. House colours at Carnivals, Wacky Hair Day Fundraisers, etc.).

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 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

School uniform items may be purchased from Spartan. Orders placed via the online store (<https://www.spartanschoolworld.com.au/>) will be delivered to the school.

Malvern Valley Primary School also operates a second-hand uniform shop in the Canteen Foyer during school hours. Items are \$5.00 or \$10.00 each.

Support for Families Experiencing Difficulty

Any parents experiencing difficulty are encouraged to contact the Principal to discuss support that may be able to be provided 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.

Implementation

Malvern Valley Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, newsletter and enrolment packs. 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.

If non-compliance continues, students will either:

- Be required to change into spare uniform items that are located in First Aid (these items must be washed and returned by parents); or,
- To miss a portion of their playtime, at the teacher's discretion.

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:

- 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

Malvern Valley 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 on request from the school office or website.

Communication

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

- Available publicly on our school's website.
- Included in staff induction processes.

- Included in our staff handbook/manual.
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required.
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions.
- Reminders in our school newsletter.
- Discussed at student forums.
- Included in transition and enrolment packs.
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request.

Related Policies and Resources

School Policies:

- **Sun Smart Policy**
- **Complaint Policy**
- **Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy**

Approval and Review

Created date	October 2023
Consultation	School Council November 2023
Approved by	Principal
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