

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Mentone Primary School on 9583 2995 or mentone.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mentone 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 Mentone 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 Mentone 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.

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 for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden

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

Main attire

Any one of the following combinations can be worn. The choice of uniform combination is up to the parent/student's discretion based on the practicalities of the weather, rather than at certain times of the year.



Combination 1	Combination 2	Combination 3
Summer dress – contrast collar & cuffs (aqua/blue/green striped) Navy blue or white socks Plain black leather shoes or sneakers No stockings, tights or pants *Navy bike shorts can be worn underneath summer dress.	Navy shorts MPS polo shirt with embroidered logo (short or long sleeve) Navy blue or white socks Plain black leather shoes or sneakers	Navy scooter skort MPS polo shirt with embroidered logo (short or long sleeve) Navy or white socks Navy footed tights/navy leggings can be worn with this combination Plain black leather shoes or sneakers
Combination 4	Combination 5	Combination 6 (Year 6 Only)
Navy long pants NO LEGGINGS MPS polo shirt with embroidered logo (short or long sleeve) Navy blue or white socks Plain black leather shoes or sneakers	Detachable bib tunic with box pleat skirt (aqua/white winter check) Plain white skivvy, OR MPS polo shirt with embroidered logo (short or long sleeve) Navy or white socks Navy footed tights/navy leggings can be worn with this combination Plain black leather shoes or sneakers	Navy shorts or navy skort or long navy pants or detachable bib tunic with box pleat skirt (aqua/white winter check) Year 6 polo shirt (short or long sleeve) Year 6 varsity jacket Navy or white socks Plain black leather shoes or sneakers
Combination 7 (Sport Days and Phys Ed Days)		
Navy shorts/navy skorts/navy pants MPS sublimated v-neck sports polo shirt (short long sleeve) in house colour (Blue/Green/Red/Yellow) Navy blue or white socks Plain black leather shoes or sneakers		

*School Bonded Jacket with Contrast (Ink/Teal) with embroidered logo OR Zip Jacket with Contrast (Ink/Teal/White) with embroidered logo OR Sublimated Jacket with bind oh hem (Navy/Teal/White) with embroidered logo can be worn with all combinations.

There are to be no other visible items of clothing worn under any combination.

Please note: Bike shorts and/or leggings can not be worn on their own.

Footwear

Shoes MUST be either:

- plain black leather shoes or T-Bars
- OR sneakers (of any colour)
- Socks must be plain navy or white (no visible brands allowed).

Headwear

The school's wide brim hat (teal) with embroidered logo will be worn in accordance with Mentone Primary School's SunSmart Policy.

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.

In winter only Mentone Primary School beanies are permitted.

Hats and beanies are not to be worn inside or during assemblies.

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

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.

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.

Make up may not be worn at school. Nail polish is not permitted.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from PSW Cheltenham, or parents may order it directly from www.psw.com.au.

Where clothing items are without the school's embroidery, these items may be purchased from any clothing store on the proviso the item adheres to the colour and style listed in this policy.

Mentone Primary School also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Opportunities for families to purchase items through the second-hand uniform store are published via news feeds on Compass.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. 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 (ASU) program.

Please contact the principal or assistant principal to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Mentone Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Compass at various times throughout the year. 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.

Measures taken by Mentone 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 acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently.

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 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
- 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

Mentone 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 *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on the school's 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
- Included in staff handbook/
- 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

- Mentone Primary School [Sunsmart Policy](#)
- Mentone Primary School [Parent Complaint Policy](#)
- Mentone 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](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2024
Consultation	September 2024 – Student representative groups October 2024 – Parent groups October 2024 – School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	October 2028