



Westgrove 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 phone: 9749 8233

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Westgrove 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 Westgrove 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 Westgrove 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

The full list of Westgrove 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, Westgrove 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 or navy blue in colour.
- Appropriate footwear must always be worn and for safety reasons open toed footwear, thongs, high heels and skate shoes are prohibited.
- Parents seeking exemptions to the dress code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health conditions or economic hardship must do so through the school Principal.

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.

Health and safety

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

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

Consistent with the School Sun-Smart Policy, Sun-Smart hats must be worn outside from the beginning of September to the end of 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

Westgrove School Uniform is available for purchase at Rushford's School Wear in Werribee. Some second-hand uniforms are also available from school. Please enquire at the office if you are interested.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal or Assistant Principal 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. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

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 to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Westgrove 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. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed, a phone call home may be required and the student may be provided with uniform to change into. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could 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 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

Westgrove 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 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
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Westgrove Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Westgrove Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Westgrove 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	August 2024
Consultation	Staff - 15 August 2024 Student Leadership – 27 August 2024 School Council - 10 th September 2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2027

APPENDIX A: WESTGROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

The Westgrove Primary School

Uniform consists of:

Navy blue track pants (no piping, motifs or writing)
Emerald green polo with contrasting blue stripes on collar
Bomber Jacket (emerald green and navy)
Navy windcheater
Navy blue shorts (no piping or writing)

Navy Blue skort (no netball skirts)
Summer dress in school material
Winter skirt / tunic in school material
Navy blue leggings only to be worn under dresses

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Shoes - preferably black or brown school shoes or pull on school boots or runners are permitted school wear
(No open toe, high heels or skate shoes)
Headwear – navy, navy sun smart hats- soft bucket style
Hajib (where required) –navy or white

Sports	Emerald green polo
Uniform	Navy shorts or skort Navy track pants Sports shoes

****All windcheaters, rugby jumpers, bomber jackets and polo shirts should be printed with the school logo**