



Student Dress Code

Purpose

To provide The Patch Primary School community with clear guidelines regarding student dress code and appearance.

Rationale

The wearing of a school uniform reinforces student's pride in their own appearance, and in representing their school. It instills recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community. It is important that children are appropriately dressed for safe participation in school activities

This Student Dress Code has been informed by consultation with the school community. It provides choice for students; allows them to safely engage in varied school activities; and considers issues such as health and safety, equality and cost.

Aims

- To offer a uniform that is comfortable, attractive, durable, cost effective, readily available, and practical for our school environment and learning programs;
- To promote equality amongst all students (*the dress code will not discriminate against any child on the basis of gender, ethnicity, religious beliefs, disability and/or economic hardship*);
- To further develop a sense of individual and collective pride in students, and their identification with our school;
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community; and
- To promote active and safe participation in school life.

Student Dress Code Guidelines

General

Every child is expected to wear the approved school uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and on school excursions.

The colours of the school uniform are **navy blue** and **sky blue**. Only clothing in these colours is accepted as school uniform.

Summer and Winter uniform items are prescribed, (*refer Attachment 1 – Recognised Uniform Items*). However students can wear any combination of uniform items that they choose.

Headwear

Wide-brimmed navy hats must be worn in Term 1 & 4, consistent with our SunSmart Policy. Hats are not to be worn indoors, and caps are unacceptable. Beanies may be worn in the winter months.

Jewellery

Watches and stud and/or sleeper earrings (worn in ears) are the only acceptable visible jewellery. Necklaces or lanyards are only permitted if worn underneath clothing.

Cosmetics

Facial cosmetics are not acceptable. Fake tattoos are not recommended.

Footwear

Black shoes with navy or white socks are preferred.

Open toe and/or heeled shoes are not permitted, due to health & safety regulations.

Implementation

School Council requires the Principal to be responsible for implementation of the Student Dress Code, in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

Staff members are expected to support the wearing of school uniform by students. Students consistently not in school uniform must be brought to the attention of the Principal.

Uniform Exemptions

Parents seeking exemption to the Student Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnicity, health conditions, disability, economic hardship or similar, must apply in writing to the Principal. All applications shall be confidential.

Arrangements can be made to obtain uniform items through *State Schools' Relief* (an organisation that assists students attending government schools in Victoria with school clothing and footwear). Applications are to be made directly to the Principal.

Access & Awareness

All families will be made aware of the Student Dress Code upon enrolment and reminded as appropriate throughout the year.

The current Student Dress Code (including the list of approved uniform items, and places of purchase - refer [Attachment 1](#)) will be published in the school newsletter at the commencement of Term 1 each year, and will also continually be available on the school's website throughout the year.

School Council (via the uniform sub-committee) will organise a system for parents to purchase school uniform items. Currently this is through the provision of an on-site uniform shop, co-ordinated by parent volunteers. Refer to the school website for opening times.

Review

The Student Dress Code, (including the list of approved uniform items at Attachment 1), will be reviewed annually by the uniform sub-committee, to ensure it reflects the changing needs of the school community.

The school reserves the right to add/delete/change approved uniform items, dependent on the activity, availability and/or recommendations from the annual review.