

Parkdale 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 office on 03 9580 1451

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Parkdale 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 Parkdale 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:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities

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

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

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 full name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden, or are the school colours
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Other than clear nail varnish, cosmetics may not be worn at school

- Students may wear a PPS sports polo when participating in weekly, year level sport (grades 1-4) and also on their dedicated Phys Ed day.
- All representatives of PPS must wear sports uniform when participating in Interschool Sports.
- Prep children may wear their specialised prep t-shirt on Fridays (this item is issued by the school upon enrolment and cannot be purchased elsewhere).
- Bandanas are not part of the standard school uniform and are not permitted. Head bands should be limited to blue, black and white.
- Socks to be in keeping with school uniform colours.

Health and safety

Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

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

School uniform hats must be worn outside from 1 September 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/carer 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.

Suitable footwear such as runners, lace-up or buckled shoes or flat heeled pull-on boots are to be worn. Open toed sandals are not to be worn (including on free dress days) for student safety.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased directly from Primary School Wear, 1 Age Street, Cheltenham, Vic. (www.psw.com.au/parents). Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

Parkdale Primary School Parents' Association also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents/carers, this takes place once a term and dates are communicated through the school newsletter.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. 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 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

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

IMPLEMENTATION

Parkdale Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website and school 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/carers by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the student 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.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may 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 the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate 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/carer
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Parkdale 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 the school 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 at staff briefings/meetings as required
- discussed at parent information nights/sessions

- hard copy available from school administration upon request.

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- parent/carers
- teachers and other school staff
- students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Parkdale Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Parkdale Primary School Complaint Policy
- Parkdale Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Parkdale Primary School Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- surveys
- information in newsletters
- School Council meetings
- student meetings
- focus groups

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Consultation materials will be translated into community languages.

Policy last reviewed	September 2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	September 2028

APPENDIX A: PARKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season.
- Approved commemorative uniform items such as the Grade 6 top are accepted as part of the uniform.

COMPLUSORY UNIFORM ITEMS
Navy/sky blue short or long sleeve polos with school logo or navy/sky blue short sleeved polo with school logo* Plain navy shorts, track pants or skort without decoration or retail brand name* Navy polar fleece, bomber jacket or windcheater with school logo* Blue and white checked dress* Sport polo with logo* Navy broadbrim hat from 1 September to 30 April inclusive* Navy blue or white socks/tights
OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS
Navy backpack with school logo* Artsmock* Navy blue, black or white head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs Navy beanie (cold weather)
FOOTWEAR
Appropriate footwear is to be worn including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• runners• lace-up or buckled shoes/school shoes No thongs, Crocs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

*These items are available from Primary School Wear.

Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.