



Dress Code Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline East Bentleigh P.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 East Bentleigh P.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 Example 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.

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

EAST BENTLEIGH P.S.'S COMPULSORY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Long navy pants or leggings— excludes jeans/jeggings and denim
- Navy shorts, skorts
- Sky-blue or White long or short-sleeved polo top, cotton tee shirt, collared shirt, blouse or skivvy
- Navy windcheater or bomber jacket, navy cardigan, vest or jumper, preferably not hooded
- East Bentleigh P.S. summer dress
- East Bentleigh P.S. tunic
- Navy or white tights or bike shorts (worn under garments)
- Plain school socks in school colours
- Navy coats, jackets or raincoats are preferable.
- School shoe style of shoes, such as T-bar sandal, short elasticated boot, or lace up school shoe, or plain runners - preferably black or white.
- SunSmart hat such as broad brimmed, legionnaires, or bucket hat in school colours
- "East Bentleigh Primary School" navy bag is preferable.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, East Bentleigh P.S. 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.

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.

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.
- Artificially coloured hair are inappropriate for school and therefore strongly discouraged.
- School uniform hats must be worn outside from 1st 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 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

- Uniform items can be purchased from **PSW Retail Outlet** - 1 Age Street, Cheltenham or online at www.psw.com.au
- School hats can be purchased at school or parents may order it directly from **PSW**
- We also operates a second-hand uniform store at our Thursday Market

Support for families experiencing difficulty.

Please contact the Principal or Assistant Principal to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families having trouble 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/>

IMPLEMENTATION

East Bentleigh will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website. 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.

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

East Bentleigh P.S. 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 way:

- Included in staff induction processes and staff training.
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff handbook/manual.
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required.
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions.
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- East Bentleigh P.S. Sunsmart Policy
- East Bentleigh P.S. Parent Complaint Policy

- East Bentleigh P.S. 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	2024
Consultation	Parent Community/School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	2025 - School Councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required

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