

Policy Origin: WMYC

Last Reviewed:

# Student Dress Code Policy

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Wodonga Middle year'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 Wodonga Middle Year'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 Wodonga Middle Year'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.

## UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

### General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Example 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.
- Students are not to wear hoodies.

### 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.

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing sunscreen.

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 can be purchased from local providers in Wodonga. There is also some second hand uniform that can be purchased at each campus of the Wodonga Middle Years College.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the 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/>

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Wodonga Middle Years College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Facebook. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school or follow up with a parent/ guardian to bring in compliant uniform.

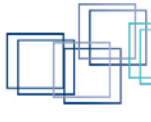
If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, contact will be made to a parent/ guardian. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal or delegate will be informed and a Student Support Group meeting will be arranged. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Wodonga Middle Years College to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

### **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

Wodonga Middle Years College 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 please contact the school principal.

### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Wodonga Middle Years Sunsmart Policy
- Wodonga Middle Years Parent Complaint Policy
- Wodonga Middle Years Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

### REVIEW CYCLE

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council in 2019 and is scheduled for review in 2020.

## APPENDIX A: Wodonga Middle Years College UNIFORM ITEMS



- College Jumper, Windcheater, Navy V-neck
- College Shirt
- Navy Pants
- Long Skirt
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Shirt
- Skirt
- Navy Shorts
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Shirt
- Navy Shorts
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Jumper, Windcheater, Navy V-neck
- College Shirt
- Navy Pants
- Enclosed Footwear



- College Dress
- Enclosed Footwear