



# Miandetta Primary School Dress Code and Uniform Policy



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## 1. Purpose

The purpose of a School Student Dress Code and Uniform Policy (the Policy) is to promote social equity in terms of clothing, assisting school staff in easily identifying students and enhancing the sense of pride within a school. The Policy is in accordance with [\*Secretary's Instruction No 6 for State School Student Dress Code\*](#) and developed in consultation with the School Association and students.

## 2. Policy objectives

- Promote a shared sense of school identity and ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- Strengthen the profile and identity of the school and its students within the broader community
- Assist school staff to easily identify students on school excursions and on the school campus
- Encourage students to take pride in their appearance
- Prepare learners for the expectations of the workplace
- Identify the process for establishing a dress code, or uniform and who is required to wear one
- Identify the process for granting exemptions to a dress code or uniform.

## 3. Key information

- State schools for students from Prep to Year 10 inclusive **MUST** have a school uniform. It is a requirement that these students wear the uniform their school endorses.
- To ensure that the requirements of [\*Education Act 2016\*](#) and the Secretary's Instruction are met, the school **MUST**:
  - » Allow exemptions and /or criteria to evaluate applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy, where individual circumstances make it difficult to adhere to the Policy and would outweigh the benefits of compliance.
  - » Provide students with gender neutral options (i.e. unisex) in addition to any male and female specific items.
  - » Endorse a uniform that is cost effective. (Schools should consider providing uniform banks to support families experiencing hardship to meet uniform requirements.)
- A principal with students enrolled outside of Prep to Year 10 can choose to require all students to wear the uniform. This **MUST** be established through a dress code, and **MUST** include consultation with the School Association and students.
- Consultation with the School Association can be done by requesting the School Association Committee to include dress code/uniform as an agenda item at a Committee meeting. The school can promote that consultation is underway and invite parents to provide feedback through the Committee.
- A dress code **may** stipulate requirements around personal appearance and grooming.

- When introducing a new dress code or uniform, a transition period of 12 months is recommended to allow time for the Policy to be understood and adhered to.

## 4. Requirements

The Policy applies during school activities (including out-of-hours or off-site activities), on school campus and while travelling to or from school (while wearing school uniform), unless an exemption has been granted.

## 5. Roles and responsibilities

### 5.1 PRINCIPALS

- **MUST** have a uniform for students from Prep and Year 10 inclusive.
- **MUST** detail the processes for exemptions from the dress code or uniform.
- **MUST** detail a review process for any applications for exemption from compliance with the Policy.
- **May** develop and implement a dress code.
- **MUST** detail how non-compliance with dress code or uniform will be dealt with under the school's *Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process*.
- **MUST** consult with the School Association when developing a dress code or uniform.
- **MUST** consult with students when developing a dress code or uniform.

Where the decision is made to develop a dress code, a principal **MUST**:

- Ensure compliance with legislation including: *Education Act 2016, Disability Discrimination Act 1992, Sex Discrimination Act 1984, Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (TAS) and Racial Discrimination Act 1975*.
- Consult with their School Association and students to ensure the Policy reflects the views of the school.
- Include requirements on the wearing of hats in line with the Cancer Council of Tasmania's 'Sun Smart' Program. (See the DoE [Sun Protection Policy](#) for further information.)
- Identify how the non-compliance with the Policy will be managed under the school's *Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process*.

### 5.2 TEACHING STAFF

- **MUST** ensure compliance with any dress code and uniform by following the processes established by the school to address non-compliance.

### 5.3 PARENTS/CARERS AND STUDENTS

- **MUST** ensure compliance with the Policy, or apply for an exemption.

## 6. Uniform items

The Everyday Uniform consists of the following items ordered through the school:

- Full-length brown pants
- Brown shorts
- Brown skirts and skorts
- Teal and White polo shirt (short sleeve and long sleeve)
- School dress
- School rugby jumper
- Brown school jacket
- Teal sunsafe bucket hat
- Fawn stockings
- Black or white socks
- Grade 6 leavers top

The footwear to accompany the Everyday Uniform must be sturdy black enclosed shoes. Students may wear sandals on their Physical Education day.

The Sport Uniform for sports played outside of school hours, consists of the following items:

- Teal soccer, netball and basketball tops,
- Teal netball skirts, brown soccer shorts and relevant team basketball uniforms
- Knee length brown soccer socks

The footwear to accompany the Sport Uniform must be suitable for the relative sport.

The Sport Uniform for during school hours representative teams is 'dry-wear' school tops.

The Sport Uniform for Physical Education is our school uniform and appropriate footwear.

## 7. Requirements

### 7.1 UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

If you need support with your child's uniform you can talk to your child's teacher or principal to discuss your family's eligibility for support or assistance in the purchase of school uniforms.

The uniform requirements are:

- The Everyday Uniform **MUST** be worn at all times including excursions (except where specified otherwise).

- Closed shoes MUST be worn at all times during school activities (except where otherwise permitted by staff).

The school provides second-hand uniform items for sale. For more information contact the office on 6424 4428

## 7.2 SUN SMART POLICY

Our Sun Smart policy has been developed to ensure all students and staff attending this school are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. It is to be implemented from September to April. See our Sun Smart Policy for full details. Sun safe hats are to be worn. Baseball caps are not acceptable.

## 8. Dress code

The following requirements apply in relation to:

- Uniform – All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 are to wear our uniform.
- Jewellery – Students may wear watches and either sleepers or small studs in their ears. Other types of ear wear or jewellery may be an Occupational Health and Safety risk.
- Make-up – Nail polish, fake nails, face/hair glitter and brightly coloured hair tinting are not acceptable.
- Hair accessories – only in school colours
- Scarves/Snoods – Can be worn to and from school but must be removed during school times, including recess and lunch
- Footwear – Sturdy black school shoes must be worn with the exception of Physical Education days when students may bring sandals for PE.
- Personal presentation/appearance – Non-school uniform items are not acceptable eg. jumpers or shirts under uniform

## 9. Exemptions

Parents may seek an exemption from compliance with elements of the school's Policy. This will be granted where the principal considers that it is in the best interests of the student to allow such an exemption. When deciding whether to grant an exemption, the principal will consider:

- Offering a grace period for new students starting partway through the school year to comply with the Policy and acquire any uniform items.
- Religious beliefs, cultural background and/or individual needs (e.g. sensory issues).
- Uniform exemptions for a 'free dress day'. Free dress clothing must be sun safe, should not display inappropriate or offensive logos, images or slogans, and closed-toe footwear must be worn.
- Uniform exemptions for specific school activities where it would not be appropriate for a student to be in uniform/comply with dress code (eg. swimming, camping).

## 9.1 REQUESTING AN EXEMPTION

To request an exemption a parent/carer or independent student MUST:

- speak to your child’s teacher or grade leader;
- list any requirements that are of concern; and
- nominate the requested length of exemption from the requirements.

For exemptions requested for five or less consecutive school days, the principal MUST:

- consider the request and notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.

For exemptions requested for more than five consecutive school days, the principal MUST:

- respond in writing to notify the parent and student if the request has been granted or denied; and
- include the timeframes if an exemption is granted;
- maintain a record of the exemption in the student’s file; and
- notify the relevant teacher/s of the details of any exemption granted.

## 10. Non-compliance with dress code or uniform

- Responses to non-compliance with the Policy should not interfere with student learning, unless necessary for student safety.
- Students should not be penalised for circumstances beyond control of them and/or their parent/carer (i.e. lack of availability of a uniform item).
- Miandetta Primary School will address non-compliance with dress code or uniform using the general process outlined in 4.3 of the *Miandetta Primary School Respectful Student Behaviour Policy*. Specifically when responding to non-compliance with dress code or uniform, Miandetta Primary School may provide a student with a school uniform item to change into whilst at school. A letter may be sent to parents outlining avenues of support. The school may limit participating in designated events/activities if students do not comply with the dress code or uniform, 4.1 of the *Miandetta Primary School Respectful Student Behaviour Policy*.

## 11. Associated documents and materials

| Documents and materials                                       | Purpose   |
|---|---|
| <a href="#"><i>Secretary’s Instruction No 6 for State</i></a> | To set out the matters that a principal is to take into account |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <a href="#"><u>School Student Dress Code</u></a>           | in developing a dress code for the students at their school.  |
| <a href="#"><u>Sun Protection Policy</u></a>               | Outlines the requirements for a Sun Protection Policy to ensure the safety of staff, students and children in relation to exposure to the sun.                    |
| <b>Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process</b>     | When addressing non-compliance with the student dress code or uniform, a principal should refer to their <i>Respectful Student Behaviour Policy and Process</i> . |
| <b>Checklist for School Student Dress Code and Uniform</b> | The Checklist can be used to ensure a dress code or uniform policy is compliant with the legislation and Secretary's Instruction.                                 |

## 12. Definitions

**DRESS CODE** means a set of requirements for how students should present themselves when attending or representing their school. As well as specifying clothing, a dress code may include personal presentation and appearance. There is no requirement for a school to have a dress code; however if a school has a dress code:

- For students in Prep to Year 10 it includes the wearing of a uniform.
- For students in Kindergarten, and Years 11 and 12 it may include a standard of dress and/or a uniform.

**UNIFORM** means a distinct set of clothing worn by members of the same organisation, and may include a school emblem and colour scheme. A uniform is required for students in Prep to Year 10.

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