



# STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

## PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Botanic Ridge Primary Schools 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 Botanic Ridge 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:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Botanic Ridge Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition based on 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

The full list of Botanic Ridge Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Botanic Ridge PS 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 either Navy or White.
- Light weight options designed for warmer weather and warmer options designed for cooler weather, as well as sports uniforms will be prescribed, and are required to be worn. Parents are to use their practical discretion when choosing which option for their child to wear in accordance with the weather.

- Track suit pants, leggings, mesh/microfibre shorts and skort are only to be worn on days when children are participating in Physical Education & sport.

### **Jewellery and cosmetics**

Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. No responsibility is accepted by the school. Religious jewellery must be worn under the uniform.

Cosmetics including nail polish may not be worn at school.

### **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. Extreme hair colours (e.g. green, pink or purple rinses etc.) and / or extreme hairstyles (e.g. Mohawks) are not permitted

School uniform hats must be worn outside in Term One and Term Four 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. The only acceptable hat is the navy school hat.

Religious headwear should be Navy, White or Grey where possible.

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 Primary School Wear.

PSW Unit 2, 10 -12 South Link, Dandenong South, Vic 3175 Ph.: 9768 0343

PSW.com.au

### **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**

Botanic Ridge 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.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

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. 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 in writing 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 disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or their parents/carers can demonstrate 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

Botanic Ridge 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 *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on our website.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Botanic Ridge Sunsmart Policy
- Botanic Ridge Parent Complaint Policy
- Botanic Ridge 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 on November 14<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled for review in February 2021.

## APPENDIX A: SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

<b>Light weight options designed for warmer weather</b>	
Short sleeve polo shirt - Ink/Clay	Checked Blouse with contrast collar & cuffs worn with Checked Culottes
Gabardine shorts - Ink	Gabardine skort / shorts – Ink worn with Short sleeve polo shirt - Ink/Clay
Socks - Navy or White	Shoes - Black
Adjustable mesh bucket hat – Ink/ Clay	
<b>Warmer options designed for cooler weather</b>	
Short or long sleeve polo shirt - Ink/Clay	Short or long-sleeved blouse/skivvy/top - White
Gaberdine pants - Ink	Worn with Box pleat tunic
Socks - Navy or White	Tights - Navy
Shoes - Black	Gaberdine pants – Navy / Ink
<b>Sports Uniform – PE &amp; Sports days only</b>	
Stretch microfiber shorts – Ink (PE & Sports Days)	<b>Can be worn all year round</b>
Scooter skort – Ink (PE & Sports Days)	Zip jacket – Striped rib Ink/Clay/White
Short or long sleeve polo shirt - Ink/Clay	Bonded jacket – Contrast zip
Tracksuit pants - Ink (PE & Sports Days)	
Sports shoes	

School councils develop and review their student dress code in accordance with the Department's Student Dress Code policy guidance on the School Policy and Advisory Guide, available at the following link:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/pages/dresscode.aspx>

This includes ensuring the student dress code meets human rights and anti-discrimination requirements, includes exemption processes and addresses health and safety considerations. School councils has consulted with the school community in developing/reviewing this student dress code. Guidance on consultation processes is available on the School Policy and Advisory Page here:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/management/Pages/developing.aspx>