

## Student Dress Code



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the schools Business Manager.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Ballam Park 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 Ballam Park 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
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- 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 unless provided with an alternative, eg. Sporting games.

### UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Ballam Park Primary School has a gender neutral uniform

#### 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 name

- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Any make up or nail polish must be neutral tones only

### **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 mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) 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.

### **PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS**

Uniform items can be purchased from the uniform shop either online or in person from State Schools' Relief. Parents/carers may order it directly from 1/8 Johnston Court, Dandenong South VIC 3175 or via the portal at [Ballam Park Primary School – State Schools' Relief Online Store](#) [Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

Second-hand uniform items are available directly from the school

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, including recent change of supplier, reducing items available (eg 2 windcheater types instead of the previous 4), no logos on pants, which help to minimise uniform costs. 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 or year 7 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 the office to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Ballam Park Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website, Compass newsfeeds and 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/carers
- 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

Ballam Park 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 from our school website.

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- available publicly on our school's website
- other online parent/carers/student communication method
- reminders in our school newsletter
- discussed in student forums

- discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- included in transition and enrolment packs
- 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**

- Ballam Park Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Ballam Park Primary School Complaint Policy
- Ballam Park Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Ballam Park 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:

- letters, emails and social media messages to parents/carers
- surveys
- information in newsletters
- public meetings
- student meetings
- focus groups
- information on our website

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

Policy last reviewed	August 19th 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2027

## APPENDIX A: BALLAM PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

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

COMPLUSORY UNIFORM ITEMS
Royal Blue short or long sleeve polos with school logo* Plain royal blue shorts, track pants or skort without decoration or retail brand name* Royal bomber jacket or windcheater with school logo* Blue and white checked dress* royal blue broadbrim hat with school logo in terms 1 and 4* Navy blue or white socks Navy blue tights
OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS
black leggings, shorts or trackpants Navy blue raincoat Plain navy, black or white skivvy backpack with school logo royal blue and white head bands, hair ribbons, "scrunchies"* Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs
FOOTWEAR
Appropriate footwear is to be worn including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● black school shoes</li><li>● runners</li></ul> No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

\*These items are available from State Schools' Relief. Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.