

Winters Flat Primary School STUDENT DRESS CODE



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact winters.flat.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Winters Flat School Council acknowledges that the concept of school uniform is often very contentious and that there are differing philosophical viewpoints regarding the purpose and benefits of implementing a uniform policy. We also acknowledge that educational research exists that supports all viewpoints on uniform, therefore our policy is proactively focussed to encourage and support students to wear our uniform, which plays a small, but important role, in contributing to our overall positive school culture. We want our uniform to allow students to be physically comfortable and connected whilst being at WFPS, without having to take an overly punitive approach. The implementation of this policy aligns with the School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support framework, with the onus on the student to develop skills to Care for Self, with the gentle encouragement and support from parents and teachers.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Winters Flat 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 Winters Flat 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 Winters Flat Primary 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.

SCOPE

Students are expected to follow 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 Winters Flat Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available on Appendix A of this policy.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, students should comply with the following:

- Uniforms should 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 for added warmth, provided these undergarments are reasonably hidden
- Jewellery is not encouraged apart from studs, sleepers and watches. From time-to-time students may wear wrist bands to support certain causes, as well as chewable sensory jewellery.
- Make up/cosmetics not encouraged

Health and safety

Refer to the Department's <u>Student Dress Code: Health and safety considerations</u> and the <u>Sun and UV</u> <u>Protection Policy</u>, when completing this section.

Shoulder length or longer hair should be tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories 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 to 30 April and on any other day when the UV index is 3 or above. School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time 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 Beleza 207 Barker Street, Castlemaine or online at: https://beleza.com.au/product-category/primary-schools/w-z-primary/winters-flat-primary-school/

Generic uniform items such as shorts, skorts and long pants can be bought from any retailer, providing they fall within the guidelines of this dress code.

Winters Flat Primary School also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Uniforms can be accessed via the school office.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the <u>Help with school costs and fees</u> 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 <u>Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund</u>, you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program.

Please contact the principal or business manager to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Winters Flat Primary School 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 following this policy, where possible. We ask families to ensure that their children arrive at school in uniform.

To this end, with a focus on the SWPBS, particularly Care for Self, students who wear school uniform will be regularly acknowledged.

If students are regularly or repeatedly not wearing school uniform, families will be contacted by the principal to request they support their children to dress correctly and discuss any underlying issues or adjustments that may be needed.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students adversely. Our number one priority is student wellbeing. We welcome communication from families regarding any adjustments that their child needs to support this.

Students and their parents or carers should inform the principal if they are not able to follow this Student Dress Code. For example, 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 financial hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

The principal or delegate will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Winters Flat 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 the school website.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Winters Flat Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Winters Flat Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Winters Flat Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code
- Department of Education and Training <u>Student Engagement policies and guidelines</u>.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June/July 2025
Consultation	June 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	June 2029

[NOTE: The department's Student Dress Code policy requires School Councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required].

APPENDIX A: WINTERS FLAT PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

All year round

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

Jumper or Vest-purchase from Beleza

Navy polar fleece with school logo

Navy polar/vest fleece with school logo

Polo shirts -purchase from Beleza

Long and short sleeved with school logo.

Skorts – can be purchased from any retailer

Plain navy skorts without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with navy blue tights/stockings

Pants – can be purchased from any retailer

Plain, navy blue track pants without decoration or brand name

Socks or tights/stockings - can be purchased from any retailer

Navy blue or white socks

Navy blue tights/stockings

Footwear – can be purchased from any retailer

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Summer sandals with covered toes, black or brown school shoes or pull-on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

Headwear – can be purchased from any retailer

Navy blue, green or white head bands, hair ribbons, "scrunchies" or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Summer Uniform

Dresses – can be purchased from any retailer

Summer blue and white checked dress

Shirts-purchase from Beleza

Short sleeve Cotton T or polo with school logo

Shorts – can be purchased from any retailer

Plain navy-blue shorts without decoration or brand name

Winter Uniform

Skivvies – can be purchased from any retailer

Plain navy skivvy

Plain navy track pants

Navy fleece/bomber jackets with logos

Navy hooded windcheater

Hats - to be worn from mid-August to 30 April

Branded hats – can be purchased from school

Navy broadbrim without decoration or brand name.

Sports uniform

Polo top (branded) -purchase from Beleza with navy blue shorts/skirt/skort - can be purchased from any retailer

Sports mesh top with logo-purchase from Beleza

Winters Flat logo items

ITEM DESCRIPTION	ITEM COLOUR	SIZES
Short sleeve cotton t- shirt [with logo]	1/3 teal & 2/3 navy body navy collar with teal-white-teal trim	4 - 16
Short sleeve contrast polo pique top [with logo]	1/3 teal & 2/3 navy body navy collar with teal-white-teal trim	2 - 16
Long sleeve contrast polo pique top [with logo]	1/3 teal & 2/3 navy body navy collar with teal-white-teal trim	4 - 16
Super fleece bomber jacket [with logo]	Navy body & teal sleeves navy bands with 2 teal trims	6 - 16
Super fleece contrast rugby top [with logo]	1/3 teal & 2/3 navy body navy collar with teal-white-teal trim	6 - 16
1/2 polar fleece top [with logo]	Navy	4 - 16
Full zip polar fleece jacket [with logo]	Navy	2 - 16
Polar fleece vest [with logo]	Navy	2 - 16
Micro fibre adjustable hat [with logo]	Navy	S/ML/XL
Micro fibre school bag [with logo]	Navy	Junior
Sports mesh top [with logo]	1/3 teal & 2/3 navy body navy collar with teal-white-teal trim	4 - 16