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## **Student Dress Code Policy**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Maldon 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 Maldon 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 Example 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.

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.

### **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. If nail polish is worn, a pale colour is preferred.

### **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.

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 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 general office at school between 8.30am and 3.30pm, Monday to Friday. The school endeavours to keep a supply of uniform items in stock however sometimes it may be necessary for parents to order items with delivery usually taking two to three weeks.

Maldon Primary School also has a supply of second-hand uniform for parents to purchase. Items can be purchased from the general office.

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

Please contact the Principal or Business Manager 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**

Maldon Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and newsletter. 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. If non-compliance with the 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.

Measures taken by Maldon Primary School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also 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**

Maldon 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 [www.maldonps.vic.edu.au/policies](http://www.maldonps.vic.edu.au/policies)

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Maldon Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Maldon Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Maldon Primary School 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 June 2020 and is scheduled for review in June 2022.

## **APPENDIX A: MALDON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS**

- Maldon Primary School requires all students to wear a uniform top and uniform jumper or vest. All uniform tops are embroidered with the Maldon Primary School logo.

Uniform top options are t-shirt, long sleeve polo shirt and short sleeve polo shirt.

Uniform jumper/vest options are fleece rugby top, fleece jacket, hoodie, navy and white warm up jacket and fleece vest.

- Shorts, pants, skorts etc. worn with the uniform tops are to be navy blue. Blue jeans are acceptable.
- Navy blue and white check dresses can be worn.
- Socks are to be navy blue or white. Navy blue tights can be worn.
- 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.
- A navy bucket or wide brimmed hat with school logo must be worn from mid-August to 30 April.

### **Headwear**

If head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” or headwear which forms part of religious/cultural beliefs are worn the school preference is for these to be navy blue or white.