

POLICY TITLE: Student Dress Code

DATE DEVELOPED: March 2024

REVIEW DATE: March 2025

ENPS MISSION: We maximise the potential of all; empowering independence, excellence, innovation and engagement with the world.

Critical Engagement
with the World

Academic Excellence

Inclusive Learning
Environment

Personal and Social
Wellbeing

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Essendon North 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 Essendon North 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
- support Essendon North 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.

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 that require a uniform.

Our School Council develops and reviews our student dress code in accordance with the Department's Student Dress Code policy guidance on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library, available at the following link: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy>

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Essendon North Primary School's school uniform items are pictured below. Families may select a preferable combination of the following items for daily uniform wear.

Essendon North Primary School Tops			Essendon North Primary School Jumpers	
				
Short Sleeved Polo Top	Long Sleeved Polo Top	Bomber Jacket	Crew Neck Windcheater	
Essendon North Primary School Shorts			Essendon North Primary School Skirts	
				
Navy Drawstring Shorts	Navy Cargo Shorts	Navy Skorts	Box Pleat Skirt	
Essendon North Primary School Pants			Essendon North Primary School Dresses	
				
Classic Navy Pant	Navy Straight Leg Track Pants	Navy Cargo Pants	A-Line Shift Dress	Box Pleat Tunic

Essendon North Primary School Accessories					
					
Navy Tights	Plain Navy Socks	Plain White Socks	Checked Headband	Checked Bow Hair Tie	Navy Bow Hair Tie

Essendon North Primary School Sun Smart Hats		
		
Legionnaire Hat	Safety Slouch Hat	Bucket Hat

Essendon North Primary School Coats (optional)		Essendon North Primary School Bags	
			
School Puffer Jacket	ENPS Raincoat or plain navy raincoat	School Bag	Bookbag

Additional approved items that may be worn as part of the Essendon North Primary School Student Dress Code include:

- A plain navy beanie (during winter, not when Sun Smart Hats are required)
- A plain navy scarf
- An Essendon North Primary School beanie
- Year Six Graduation Wear, including the ENPS Bomber Jacket, Rugby Jumper and Polo Shirt

General Appearance:

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Essendon North Primary 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
- Uniforms must be an appropriate size and length. We ask that all tops are of appropriate length and do not expose bare midriff. The hemline of all shorts, skirts, dresses and skorts should be no shorter than ten centimetres above the knee.
- Religious and cultural garments, where possible, should match the school uniform colours and be navy.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Footwear:

At Essendon North Primary School closed toed shoes are compulsory and footwear is viewed as an important safety item. Students may wear:

- black leather closed toed school shoes
- predominantly white or predominately black runners

Hair and Sun Safety:

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of head lice and for student safety. This is in accordance with the Department of Education and Training (DET) Policy Advisory Library and the [Head Lice Policy](#).

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August to the 30th of 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. This expectation is in accordance with our [SunSmart Policy](#). For student safety, hats must be worn in conjunction with religious or cultural garments to ensure the whole face is protected.

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.

Jewellery and Cosmetics:

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school as this can present risks of injury. Stud earrings and sleepers may be worn in the ears. Watches are also acceptable, however they must comply with our [Digital Learning Policy](#).

We ask that cosmetics are not worn at Essendon North Primary School. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased through PSW Quality Apparel. Purchases can be made online at <https://www.psw.com.au/schools/essendon-north-primary-school.html> or in store at a PSW outlet. For online purchases, delivery can be arranged free to school, or to an alternate address for a cost.

Please note that we do not have a second-hand uniform shop at ENPS.

Support for families experiencing hardship:

Please contact the Principal or a member of our Administration Team 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/>

Essendon North Primary School also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Essendon North Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, digital newsletter and Parent Handbook. 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, communication will be made with 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 Essendon North 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 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

Essendon North 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 [Complaints and Concerns Policy](#), available on our school website.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in our staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Included as annual reference in school newsletter
- Discussed at student forums/through communication tools
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS



If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Essendon North Primary School on (03) 9379 3979.

RELATED POLICIES

- [Essendon North Primary School's SunSmart Policy](#)
- [Essendon North Primary School's Parent Complaint Policy](#)
- [Essendon North Primary School's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy Last Reviewed	March 2024
Approved By	Kate Barletta
Next Scheduled Review Date	March 2025