



BALWYN NORTH
Primary School

Balwyn North Primary School Student Dress Code

Purpose:

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Balwyn 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 was developed by Balwyn North Primary School Council in close consultation with our school community and ensures that the rights of individual students are respected, whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community. At Balwyn North Primary School, wearing of the school uniform is required.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- Allow all students to feel equal and feel a sense of belonging to the school community
- Prevent bullying and competition based on clothing
- Provide durable clothing that is practical for our school environment
- Ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of the school community
- Enhance the profile and identity of the school and our students within the wider community
- Enhance individual and group security
- Ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- Support the school to respect and sensitively respond to requests based upon religious, ethnic or cultural beliefs or background.

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 required 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 Balwyn North Primary School 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, Balwyn North 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. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

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 30th 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.

Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be a close-fitting, wrap-around style that meets the Australian Standards 1067 and covers as much of the eye area as possible.

Purchase of Uniforms

Uniform items can be purchased from the Uniform Shop at school, or parents may order these through the office using the relevant order form.

Balwyn North Primary School Parents and Friends Association also periodically operates a second-hand uniform stall for parents. The dates and times of this are communicated through the Bulletin.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the principal 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

Balwyn North Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and the School Bulletin at the start of each school year. 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 by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, 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 Balwyn 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 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 Student Dress Code

Balwyn 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 *Parent Complaint Policy*.

Further Information and Resources

- Balwyn North Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Balwyn North Primary Parent Complaint Policy
- Balwyn North Primary 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 policy was last updated on 1st December 2020 and will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Appendix A: Balwyn North Primary School Uniform Items

Outer wear

Navy bomber jacket with logo
Navy polar fleece jacket with logo
Navy polar fleece vest with logo
Navy hooded windcheater with logo

Polo shirts

Sky blue long and short sleeved with school logo.

Skorts

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

Dresses

Summer blue and white checked dress / Winter pinafore

Shorts

Plain navy blue shorts without decoration or brand name (gabardine or taslan)

Pants

Plain, navy blue track pants or gabardine pants, without decoration or brand name

Hats (To be worn from mid-August to 30th April)

Navy legionnaire caps with logo
Navy bucket hat with logo
Navy slouch hat with logo

Sports Uniform

House coloured polo shirt with school logo
Senior students only (Years 3-6)- Sky blue and navy sports top

Foot & Head Wear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. School shoes, pull on school boots, or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted. Students should wear navy blue or white socks or navy blue tights, where possible.

Headwear, such as hair ties and scrunchies should match with the school uniform colours.

These items are not available at the uniform shop and should be sourced elsewhere.