

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Tarwin Valley 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 Tarwin Valley 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:

- To ensure all students are appropriately dressed and adorned to allow students to participate safely in all aspects of schooling.
- To develop and maintain a strong sense of identity and pride with the school through the children wearing the approved school uniform.
- To provide easy identification of students and to enhance each child's sense of security - particularly when the children are on excursions.
- To promote equality and reduce the potential for children to feel peer pressure to wear fashion items at school.

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

Tarwin Valley Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

- Polo shirt including long sleeve polo *Jade*
- Skivvy *Jade, Navy or White*
- Shorts or culottes *Navy*
- Windcheater *Navy*
- Tracksuit pants or long pants (not jeans) *Navy*
- Polar fleece jacket or vest *Navy*
- Bomber Jacket (Beleza uniform only) *Jade and Navy*
- Leggings or tights *Navy or Jade or white*
- Grade 6 windcheater/polo/ rugby 'Class of x' *Navy, Jade and/or white*
- Summer dress or shorts *Navy and white check* – school check or standard gingham
- Hat - broad brimmed or bucket
- Shoes-sensible, strong and safe – no thongs or open sandals

General appearance

- The wearing of the school uniform is a pre-condition for every child participating on an out-of-school activity - unless parents are notified of other arrangements.
- Expectations will be routinely published in the Newsletter

Jewellery, hair and cosmetics

- Students are only to have natural hair colours.
- Hair styles should not impede the child's vision. As all schools are susceptible to incidences of headlice, to lessen the likelihood of infestation, children with long hair are encouraged to wear it tied back
- Students are not permitted to wear any makeup.

Sun safety

- The wearing of the above-specified hat for all outdoor activities is compulsory from Sept 1st to April 30th in Terms 1 and 4. Children are permitted to wear beanies on cold days during Terms 2 and 3.
- To reduce the risk of injury hats cords, hat toggles, chinstraps and drawstrings should be removed from hats
- Hats are not to be worn inside.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items with a school logo can be purchased from Beleza, either online at store.beleza.com.au or at their Pakenham retail store. Other general items can be purchased from stores such as, Target or Kmart.

Second-hand uniform items may be available for purchase from MACS, the local op-shop.

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/>

The school will provide 'loan' windcheaters if needed and have a supply of new windcheaters for purchase for new students during the school year.

IMPLEMENTATION

Tarwin Valley 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 complying with this policy where possible.

- School staff will monitor the wearing of the correct uniform. Where children are noted as being continually out of school uniform, the Principal will discuss the issue with the child and parents
- The Principal may determine the consequences to be imposed on a student for breaching the school dress code. The consequences must be reasonable and comply with the Effective Schools are Engaging Schools-Student Engagement Policy and the school's Student Engagement and Wellbeing policy

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Parents/carers may apply 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

Tarwin Valley 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's website.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Tarwin Valley Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Tarwin Valley Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Tarwin Valley 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 on 19th November 2019 and is scheduled for annual review.