

DRESS CODE POLICY- STUDENTS 2023 - 2027



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Mill Park Heights Primary School Tel:(03)94368866
Email: mill.park.heights.ps@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mill Park Heights Primary School 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 Mill Park Heights 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 Mill Park Heights 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.

Uniform and appearance

At Mill Park Heights Primary School:

- the uniform will be practical and affordable
- the uniform will be worn by all students
- the uniform will be in the colours of gold and maroon
- the uniform will involve the following:

For students	
Maroon polo shirts long/short sleeve (with logo)	Maroon netball skirts (See below)
Maroon bomber jackets (with logo)	Maroon Skort
Maroon rugby tops (with logo)	Summer dress in school colour check
Maroon polar fleece vests (with logo)	Winter pinafore/skirt
Maroon track pants	Lycra bike pants - to be worn under dress/netball skirt
Maroon bootleg pants	Winter-maroon beanie
Maroon unisex shorts	Summer-choice of legionnaire, slouch or bucket style

- all hair control items must be plain and in school colours
- the only acceptable jewellery is watches and stud earrings
- other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school

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Respect, Responsibility, Care & Compassion, Honesty & Trust, Personal Best and Team Work***

- maroon netball skirts may only be worn over track suit pants for interschool sport purposes and PE
- if scarves and gloves are worn they are recommended to be in school colours
- any hat worn must be in school colours, with a school logo
- shoes should have low heels and be either brown or black school shoes or running shoes
- open toed shoes or thongs are not acceptable
- all parents and school staff will support school uniform
- all items of school uniform must be labelled clearly with child's name.

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. Clear nail polish is recommended.

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.

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

Mill Park Heights 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.

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 Mill Park Heights 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.

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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.

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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Further information and resources

- Mill Park Heights Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Mill Park Heights Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Mill Park Heights 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](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed (DET)	July 2021
Consultation	School Council October 2023
Approved by	Chris Beare and School Council 17/7/2023
Next scheduled review date	17/7/2027