



# PATTERSON LAKES PRIMARY SCHOOL

No. 5190

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Principal: Carole Mayes

Website: <http://www.patterson-lakes-ps.vic.edu.au>

## STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Patterson Lakes 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 Patterson Lakes 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 Patterson Lakes 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.

### SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code whilst travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

### UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Patterson Lakes Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

#### General appearance

Whilst at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair.
- Uniforms should 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.
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery.
- Other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school.

#### Health and safety

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

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 Primary School Wear (PSW) Should you require any information regarding the school uniform, please contact PSW direct on 9768 0360. Click on the attached link to view the Patterson Lakes Primary School uniform price list.

[PSW Uniform Price List](#)

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting Foundation or Year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program.

Please contact the Principal or our office staff to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Patterson Lakes Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Compass. 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, 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.

## **EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE**

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently.

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 financial 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

Patterson Lakes 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's website.

## 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 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

- Sunsmart Policy
- Complaints and Concerns Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October, 2024
Consultation	School Council and School Leadership Staff
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	October, 2027

# APPENDIX A

## Uniform List

Patterson Lakes Primary School has determined that the following dress attire is the designated School Uniform.

<b>SUMMER UNIFORM</b>
Wide brimmed hat Navy shorts, skirt or skort ( <i>no netball skirt</i> ) Navy & Sky polo shirt – short or long sleeve ( <i>with school logo</i> ) Blue, White and Navy check dress ( <i>no leggings</i> ) Navy windcheater or Bomber jacket ( <i>with school logo</i> ) White or navy socks Black shoes Runners/sports shoes ( <i>minimal colour</i> )
<i>Note: Year 6 students are permitted to wear the Year 6 Bomber Jacket.</i>
<b>WINTER UNIFORM</b>
Navy tunic or skirt ( <i>no netball skirt</i> ) Navy shorts or track pants (boot leg is permitted) Navy & Sky polo shirt – short or long sleeve ( <i>with school logo</i> ) Navy or Light blue skivvy Navy windcheater or Bomber jacket ( <i>with school logo</i> ) White or navy socks or navy tights
<b>HOUSE UNIFORM</b>
House polo shirts

**Note: Optional Extras (only accepted in navy):** Coats, scarves, beanies, cardigans, gloves, vest. Due to safety regulations, scarves are only able to be worn to and from school (not in the playground or classroom)