



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the School Office on 98594258.

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 has been developed by Balwyn North Primary School's School Council in consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community.

This policy aims to ensure student safety, by ensuring students of Balwyn North Primary School are easily identifiable both on and off campus.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Balwyn North Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition based on clothing and aiming to avoid bullying
- 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.

Balwyn North Primary School requires the assistance of all parents to support students to adhere to this policy.

Exemptions to this dress code can be found later in this document.

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

The full list of Balwyn North Primary School's 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 Primary School students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms should be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Be appropriate for the activities of the day (E.g. sports uniform on sport day)
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden or are without pattern or logo and are in line with the school colours of navy or sky blue (eg. Sky blue long-sleeve t-shirt worn under sky blue polo shirt or navy leggings worn under school dress)

Jewellery and cosmetics

Decorative jewellery poses safety risks to students in the classroom and in the playground. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Students wearing smart watches or smart fitness devices must have connectivity and notifications switched to off during school time, in line with the Balwyn North Primary School Student Use of Mobile Devices Policy.

Cosmetics and nail polish should not be worn at school.

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.

Cultural or religious headwear

Students are permitted to wear cultural or religious headwear to school. Where possible, headwear should be in muted or school colours.

Special Uniform Additions

Official Balwyn North Primary School special uniform options may be introduced into the approved uniform items at times. These include items such as Year 6 polo shirts and jumpers or production shirts.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased directly from Dobson's retail outlet located at 274 Doncaster Rd, Balwyn North, or alternatively through Dobson's online portal - <https://dobsons.com.au/schools/balwyn-north-primary-school/>

Balwyn North Primary School Parents and Friends Association also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents once a term, as advertised in the school bulletin.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal or the Business Manager 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. 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.

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 THIS 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

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- In the 'School Documents' section of our parent Compass portal
- 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

- Balwyn North Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Balwyn North Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Balwyn North 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	6 th September 2022
Consultation	School Council Education Sub Committee School Community via Compass 26/8/2022
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	September 2025

APPENDIX A: BALWYN NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

Items available through school supplier

Jumper or Vest

Navy polar fleece jacket with school logo
Navy polar fleece vest with school logo
Navy bomber jacker with school logo
Navy hoody with school logo

Polo shirts

Sky blue long or short sleeve polo shirt with school logo

Skorts

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

Socks or tights/stockings

Navy blue or white socks
Navy blue tights/stockings

Dresses

Summer blue and white checked dress
Winter blue tartan pinafore

Shorts

Plain navy blue shorts without decoration or brand name

Pants

Plain, navy blue track pants without decoration or brand name

Hats

Navy extended rim bucket hat with school logo

Sports uniform

House coloured short sleeve polo shirt with school logo
(Hume – red, Mitchell – green, Flinders – royal blue, Sturt – yellow)
Interschool sport school navy and sky blue sport shirt with logo and school name

Balwyn North Primary School Logo Backpacks are also available from our uniform supplier.

Other items

Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn to school at all times. Black or navy school shoes or pull on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

Headwear

Navy blue or sky blue head bands, hair ribbons or “scrunchies”. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs should be in school or muted colours.