

Avondale Primary School

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



Statement of Commitment to Child Safety

Avondale Primary School is a child safe organisation which welcomes all children, young people and their families.

We are committed to providing environments where our students are safe and feel safe, where their participation is valued, their views respected, and their voices are heard about decisions that affect their lives. Our child safe policies, strategies and practices are inclusive of the needs of all children and students.

Avondale Primary school's approach to creating and maintaining a child safe school environment is guided by our school philosophy and values. At Avondale Primary School our vision is 'to create a community that strives for excellence through high quality learning, engagement and wellbeing for all.'

We have no tolerance for child abuse and take proactive steps to identify and manage any risk of harm to students in our school environments.

We promote positive relationships between students and adults and between students and their peers. These relationships are based on trust and respect.

When child safety concerns are raised or identified, we treat these seriously and respond promptly and thoroughly.

Particular attention is given to the child safety needs of Aboriginal students, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, international students, students with disabilities, those unable to live at home, children and young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual (LGBTIQA+) and other students experiencing risk or vulnerability. Inappropriate or harmful behaviour targeting students based on these or other characteristics, such as racism or homophobia, are not tolerated at our school, and any instances identified will be addressed with appropriate consequences.

Child safety is a shared responsibility. Every person involved in our school has an important role in promoting child safety and wellbeing and promptly raising any issues or concerns about a child's safety.

We are committed to regularly reviewing our child safe practices, and seeking input from our students, families, staff, and volunteers to inform our ongoing strategies.



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office on 9318 1755.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Avondale 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 approved by Avondale Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our subcommittees and 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:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities

Avondale Primary School

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

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 such as interschool sport and excursions.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Avondale Primary School students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

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

- School logo polo shirt/T-shirt (gold or royal blue)
- Plain gold polo shirt/T-shirt
- Royal blue shorts
- Royal blue (royal or navy) netball skirt
- Royal blue tracksuit pants
- Blue and white check dress
- Blue or gold skivvy
- School logo bomber jacket/windcheater
- Plain royal blue windcheater
- Socks (white, blue or black)
- Sneakers/runners, or school shoes -
- School hat (legionnaires, bucket or with a wide brim)

Please note:

- Students are encouraged to wear runners on days when PE is timetabled
- Thongs or open-toed sandals are not permitted as they do not provide adequate protection

Avondale Primary School's student dress code supports students who wish to wear religious headwear to school.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Avondale Primary 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 in school uniform colours may be worn over the top or underneath the uniform for added warmth

Jewellery and cosmetics

Due to safety and security concerns students are not encouraged to wear jewellery to school. These include stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, bracelets and necklaces. Watches that are not internet enabled are permitted, however the school does not take responsibility for these items.

The wearing of cosmetics and fake fingernails at school is not permitted.

Avondale Primary School

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



Health and Safety

Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Sun Protection

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/carer or student choice.

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. Avondale Primary School does not take responsibility for these items.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Avondale Primary School uniforms are manufactured and supplied by LOWES. Uniform items can be purchased from LOWES Airport West or online at

<https://www.lowes.com.au/schools-online/avondale-primary-school>

Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores. School hats may be purchased directly from the school

LOCATION:

Lowes Airport West - Westfield
Shop 134/135, 29-35 Louis Street
AIRPORT WEST 3042
Ph: 9330 1943

TRADING HOURS:

Monday to Wednesday – 9.00am to 5.30pm
Thursday & Friday – 9.00am to 9.00pm
Saturday – 9.00am to 5.30pm
Sunday – 10.00am to 5.00pm

Avondale Primary School also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. The second hand uniform store provides good quality uniforms at a reasonable price. This store is run by volunteers and is open twice a term for card only purchases. This will be communicated with families via Compass. Donations are greatly appreciated.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, including permitting students to wear non branded uniform items that can be purchased from department stores and providing a second hand uniform store for families to make purchases. 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 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

Please contact the school office, Principal or Assistant Principal via phone or email to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

Avondale Primary School

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



IMPLEMENTATION

Avondale Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and newsletter. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Families of students wearing non-compliant uniform items will be reminded of our Student Dress Code policy and asked to wear compliant uniform items.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a Compass Chronicle will be recorded for the student and parents by the school. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the School Improvement Team 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 Avondale 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.

Students attending sport activities e.g. Interschool Sport are required to change out of their sports uniform and back into their general school uniform upon return to school.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may 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 the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural 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
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- encourage the student and/or their parents/carers to support their application with evidence.

Avondale Primary School

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



The Principal will then try to negotiate a resolution that is acceptable to all parties, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. 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

Avondale 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 *Complaint Policy*, available on the school website.

COMMUNICATION

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

- available publicly on our school's website
- other online parent/carer/student communication method
- reminders in our school newsletter
- discussed in student forums
- included in staff handbook
- 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.

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- parent/ carers
- teachers and other school staff
- students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Avondale Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Avondale Primary School Complaint Policy
- Student Wellbeing & Engagement Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- letters, emails and Compass News Feed notifications to parents/carers
- surveys

Avondale Primary School

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



- information in newsletters
- public meetings
- student meetings
- focus groups
- information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Policy last reviewed	October 2025
Consultation	Education Subcommittee School Improvement Team School Council
Approved by	School Council October 28 2028
Next scheduled review date	October 2028