



Uniform Policy

2023 FAIRHILLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DRESS CODE

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Fairhills 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 Fairhills High School's School Council in close consultation with our school community via the Uniform Committee 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 the 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

All students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

All staff are expected to monitor and support students to comply with the student dress code.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from Buxwear which is open six days a week (closed Sunday). Buxwear is located at Factory 8/169 Cheltenham Rd, Dandenong.

The school will assist students who are experiencing financial disadvantage because of short-term crisis or long-term chronic need through the State School's Relief (SSR).

SSR assistance will be provided by either direct supply of uniform items or uniform vouchers for redemption from school uniform suppliers. If parents/carers and students require support they should contact the student's team leader or Sub School leader directly.

The school also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Fairhills High School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and Uniform Infringement Process is communicated to the school community through Compass posts, our website, beginning of year induction sessions and newsletters. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

When students have repeated uniform infringement occurrence, the Principal may require parents/carers and the students to attend a meeting at the school. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

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/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

Fairhills High 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 our website.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	24/11/21
Consultation	26/10/22 Uniform Committee
Approved by School Council	30/11/22
Next scheduled review date	28/09/23

GENERAL APPEARANCE

While 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 must be clearly marked with the owner's name

General uniform

- The correct summer and winter uniform may be worn at any time during the year
- No mixing of uniforms is permitted
- Summer dress and winter skirt length must be no higher than 5cm above the knee
- Only plain white t-shirts and singlets can be worn under the uniform and cannot be visible
- The school black jacket is the only jacket that can be worn as the green jacket is now discontinued
- Plain black enclosed shoes (no boots or high cut/top shoes) with black laces/buckles must be worn correctly and regularly cleaned and maintained
- Ballet shoes, slip-ons, high cut/top shoes and boots are not permitted
- Students can wear a plain black baseball cap outdoors. No logo or writing is permitted.
- Students can wear a school beanie outdoors during Term 2 & 3.

Sun smart

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart outdoors by wearing the school cap, applying sunscreen and wearing close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Active uniforms

The sports uniform can be worn:

- For the day, if a student has a practical PE/Sport period
- Plain black tracksuit pants with elasticised ankles (no logo/branding/writing) or School tracksuit pants (can be purchased from Term 2)
- The basketball uniform is only to be worn during basketball classes and at school competitions
- The dance uniform is only to be worn during dance classes and not to and from school.

Jewellery and make-up

- Excessive and inappropriate jewellery is not permitted
- Students with ear piercings are permitted to wear two small piercings per ear
- In addition to earrings students are permitted to wear one small facial piercing
- Non-excessive make-up and nail polish is permitted and must be natural in look.

Hair

- Hair must be kept clean and tidy; rinses, tints and extreme fashion styles are not acceptable, and must be avoided. This includes excessive hair adornments, unnatural hair colour or multiple hair colours
- Students with hair below collar length must wear it tied securely during practical classes. This is an Occupational Health and Safety requirement.

Carrying items

- Students must use a FHS school backpack or a plain black backpack to carry their belongings to and from school.
- Back packs must be stored securely in student lockers throughout the day unless attending PE sport classes.
- Students should use a laptop bag to carry laptops to class during the day.
- Students are not to use handbags at any time.

Uniform

Summer Uniform (can be worn throughout the year)

- School summer dress (no higher than 5cm above the knee)
- School grey shorts or trousers
- School short/long sleeved white shirt (discontinued from 2025)
- School white and purple polo top (compulsory for Year 7 & 8)
- School rugby top (compulsory for Year 7&8 students)
- School purple/green jumper (discontinued from 2024)
- Plain black:
 - ankle or knee-hi socks
 - leather/suede enclosed shoes (not boots) with black laces (buckled or laced up).
 - baseball cap (outdoors)
- Optional school tie and school blazer (discontinued from 2024).

Winter Uniform (except beanie, can be worn throughout the year)

- School skirt (no higher than 5cm above the knee)
- School grey shorts or trousers
- School short/long sleeved white shirt (discontinued from 2025)
- School white & purple polo top (compulsory for Year 7 & 8)
- School rugby top (compulsory for Year 7 & 8)
- School purple/green jumper (discontinued from 2024)
- School black jacket
- Plain black:
 - ankle or knee-hi socks
 - non-see-through tights
 - leather/suede enclosed shoes (not boots) with black laces (buckled or laced up).
 - Plain black scarf
 - baseball cap (outdoors)
- School beanie during Term 2 & 3 (outdoors)
- Optional school tie and school blazer (discontinued from 2024)

Sports Uniform

- Designated black sports shorts
- School sports polo shirt
- Plain black ankle or knee-hi socks
- Plain black sports shoes
- Plain black tracksuit pants with elasticised ankles (no logo/branding/writing) or school tracksuit pants (from Term 2)

Basketball Uniform

- Basketball singlet
- Basketball shorts
- Plain black ankle or knee-hi socks
- Appropriate sports shoes

Dance Uniform

- Sports polo shirt
- Black leggings/tracksuit pants with elasticised ankles/school tracksuit pants/dance pants