



2026 STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY		
Policy No: ES14 Version No: 1		
Ratified: November 2025	Review Cycle: 1 year	Next Review: November 2026
Policy Owner: Principal		Approver: School Council

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Fairhills High School.

1. 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 to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community. Please see further information on Human Rights [here](#).

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.

2. 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.

3. PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Most uniform items can be purchased from Bob Stewart, which is open six days a week (closed Sunday). Bob Stewart is located at Factory 8/169 Cheltenham Rd, Dandenong. The school's uniform can be found at: <https://www.bobstewart.com.au/school/fairhills-high-school/shop>

The School Council regularly consults with the school community and works to ensure the student uniform is affordable. This includes the PE uniform being able to be worn every day, not having logos on socks and in 2026 removing the logo from the Active Track Pant.

However, if a family is facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If a student is starting Year 7 and is

eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), a parent/carer may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

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 at Bob Stewart.

If parents/carers and students require support, they should contact the relevant Team Leader or Sub School Assistant Principal directly. The school may also have uniform items available to borrow on request.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

Fairhills High School will ensure that the Student Dress Code and Uniform Infringement Process is communicated to the school community through Compass posts, the FHS website, Return to School Interviews and newsletters.

The school will assist students to comply with this policy when necessary.

When students have repeated uniform infringement occurrence, the principal may require parents/carers and the students to attend a meeting at the school.

5. 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.

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back for student safety in practical subjects.

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

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology classes where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

Students are encouraged to wear school hats outside. 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.

6. 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 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
- 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 a written reason will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

7. 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.

8. UNIFORM POLICY

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 summer, winter and PE uniform may be worn on any school day
- Mixing of uniforms is not permitted
- Summer dress and winter skirt length must be no higher than 5 cm above the knee
- Students may wear plain white t-shirts, singlets, or thermals under their uniform, provided they **are not visible**.
- The school rugby top is the only jumper that can be worn
- The Black Waterproof Jacket or the Black Softshell Jacket can be worn over school tops e.g. rugby top
 - *from 2028, the Black Softshell Jacket will not be a part of the uniform*
- 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 or the FHS beanie outdoors.

Active uniforms

- The PE uniform can be worn on any school day
- The black shorts must be no higher than 10 cm above the knee
- 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 at school competitions

Sun smart

As a secondary school, we expect students to take personal responsibility for being SunSmart outdoors. This includes wearing the school cap, applying sunscreen, and wearing close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet Australian Standard 1067 and provide maximum eye protection.

Jewellery and make-up

- Excessive or inappropriate jewellery is not permitted
- Students are permitted to wear two small piercings per ear and one small facial piercing
- Make-up should be minimal and nail polish must be natural in look.

Hair

- Hair and facial hair must be neat and well groomed
- Hair colour that is extreme e.g. neon or bright coloured hair, is not permitted and must be avoided
- Excessive hair adornments are not permitted
- 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 backpack, a FHS School bag (Y10-12 only) or a plain black backpack to carry their belongings to and from school.
- Backpacks must be stored securely in student lockers throughout the day unless they have chosen to wear the regular school uniform and need to change for PE
- Students should use a laptop bag to carry laptops to class during the day.
- Students are not to use handbags at any time.

PE Uniform (worn on any school day)

Purchase from Bob Stewart:

- Purple Short Sleeve Sports Polo
- Rugby Top
- Black Softshell Jacket

Purchase from Bob Stewart or another clothing supplier:

- Active Track Pant - **must match the approved Bob Stewart style.**
 - Fabric: Polyester blend incorporating stretch fibre (such as elastane)
 - Colour: Plain black
 - Fit: Slim tapered leg with zippers on the outer leg seam
- Black Sports Shorts - **must match the approved Bob Stewart style.**
 - Fabric: Lightweight polyester blend with stretch fibre for comfort and movement
 - Colour: Plain black
 - Length: sits no more than 10cm above the knee
- Plain black ankle or knee-hi socks - no visible logos or writing permitted
- Plain black sports shoes - no visible logos or writing permitted

General Uniform (worn on any school day)

FHS designated clothing - Purchase from Bob Stewart:

- Summer Dress (no higher than 5 cm above the knee)
- White & Purple Short Sleeve Academic Polo
- Rugby Top
- Black Waterproof Jacket
- Black Softshell Jacket (discontinued from 2028)

Purchase from Bob Stewart or another clothing supplier:

If purchasing from another clothing supplier it **must** match the approved Bob Stewart style.

- Grey Junior/Senior Trousers or Slacks – shaped fit
- Grey Shorts with side tab
- Grey Winter Skirt (no higher than 5 cm above the knee) – shaped fit
- Plain Black - no visible logo or writing permitted:
 - Ankle or knee-hi socks
 - Leather/suede enclosed shoes (not boots) with black laces (buckled or laced up).
 - Scarf
 - Cotton Elastane Tights – with Winter Skirt (leggings or active wear are not permitted)
 - Baseball cap (outdoors only)

FHS designated clothing – purchase from the FHS General Office

- FHS beanie (can now be worn outdoors throughout the year)

Basketball Uniform (worn only during basketball class and competitions)

- FHS Basketball Singlet, Shorts and socks – provided by the PE department
- Appropriate sports shoes - purchase from any clothing supplier

Dance Uniform (worn only for dance class and competitions)

- FHS Purple Short Sleeve Sports Polo
- FHS Active Track Pant (purchase from Bob Stewart) or black plain leggings (purchase from any clothing supplier).

9. VERSION CONTROL TABLE

Version	Author	Date	Change Made
2.0	Ian Van Schie	28 Nov 2023	Updated policy following school community consultation via google form & School Council
2.1	Toni Kirk	29 Nov 2023	Updated title panel, added version and date to footer and added version control table
3.0	Ian Van Schie	30 Oct 2024	Updated policy following school community consultation via School Council
4.0	Ian Van Schie	26 Nov 2025	Updated policy following school community consultation via School Council
5.0	Ian Van Schie	20 Feb 2026	Updated policy following school community consultation and School Council.