



2024 STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY		
Policy No: ES14	Version No: 3	
Ratified: 13/5/2020	Review Cycle: 1 year	Last Review: Nov 23
Policy Owner: Principal	Approver: School Council	

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 all school activities.

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

3. 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 at Buxwear. 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 this 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. 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 a written reason will be provided to the student and/or their parents or carers.

6. 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.

7. 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 day
- Mixing of uniforms is not permitted
- Summer dress and winter skirt length must be no higher than 5 cm above the knee
- Plain white t-shirts, singlets or thermals can be worn under the uniform and cannot be visible
- The school rugby top is the only jumper that can be worn
- The Black Waterproof Jacket or the Black Softshell Jacket (the latter will be discontinued in 2026) can be worn over school tops e.g. rugby top
- 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 visible logo or writing is permitted.
- Students can wear the FHS beanie outdoors

Active uniforms

- The Sports/PE uniform can be worn on any school day
- 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 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.

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.

General Uniform (worn on any school day)

FHS designated clothing - Purchase from Buxwear or second hand:

- Summer Dress (no higher than 5 cm above the knee)
- 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
- White & Purple Short Sleeve Academic Polo
- White Short/Long Sleeved Deluxe Shirt (discontinued from 2025)
- Rugby Top
- Black Waterproof Jacket
- Black Softshell Jacket (discontinued from 2026)
- 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)

FHS designated clothing – purchase from the FHS General Office

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

FHS non designated clothing - Purchase from any clothing supplier:

- Plain black - no visible logos or writing permitted
 - Ankle or knee-hi socks
 - Leather/suede enclosed shoes (not boots) with black laces (buckled or laced up).
 - Baseball cap (outdoors only)
 - Black non-see-through tights – with Winter Skirt
 - All black scarf

Sports/PE Uniform (worn on any school day)

Purchase from Buxwear or second hand:

- Black Sports Shorts
- Purple Short Sleeve Sports Polo
- Active Track Pant
- Rugby Top
- Black Softshell Jacket

Purchase from any clothing supplier:

- Plain black ankle or knee-hi socks - no visible logos or writing permitted
- Plain black sports shoes - no visible logos or writing permitted

Basketball Uniform (worn during basketball class and competitions)

- FHS Basketball Singlet & Shorts – provided by the PE department
- Plain black ankle or knee-hi socks - purchase from any clothing supplier
- Appropriate sports shoes - purchase from any clothing supplier

Dance Uniform (worn for dance class and competitions)

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

8. VERSION CONTROL TABLE

Version	Author	Date	Change Made
2	Ian Van Schie	30 Nov 21	Published
2.1	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