



Barnawartha Primary School

Student Dress Code

School Councils must develop and review their student dress code in accordance with the Department's Student Dress Code policy guidance on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library, available at the following link: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy>

This will include ensuring your student dress code meets human rights and anti-discrimination requirements, includes exemption processes and addresses health and safety considerations. School Councils will also need to ensure they have properly consulted with the school community in developing/reviewing this student dress code. Guidance on consultation processes is available on the Policy and Advisory Library here: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/guidance/developing-and-reviewing-dress-codes>



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the Principal, Disabilities Inclusion or Mental Health and Wellbeing staff.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Barnawartha Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes. The Student Leadership Team, School Council and staff, with feedback from our families, have collaborated to develop the Student Dress Code of Conduct.

An outward sign of belonging to and representing the Barnawartha Primary School community is wearing a school uniform which bears the Barnawartha Primary School logo. A uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community and assists in maintaining pride in representing our school. Our uniform not only provides a sense of belonging to our school it also fosters equality, equity and health and safety.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance.
- support Barnawartha Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition or exclusion on the basis of clothing.
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

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

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Barnawartha Primary School students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair. Your child will be supplied with a spare to change into for the day if it is deemed unsuitable/unsafe or not uniform.
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Jewellery and Make-up

- Make up is not permitted – no mascara, eyeshadow, lip stick/lip gloss, foundation, blush, etc, no tinted sunscreens.
- Fake lashes, fake/press-on nails, coloured nail polish, nail stickers, acrylic, sns, gel, etc are not permitted.
- Nails should be kept at a clean and safe length that does not risk injury to themselves or others.
- Facial piercing is not permitted.
- **Decorative jewellery, necklaces, bracelets, wrist-bands etc are not permitted.**
- Rings are not permitted.
- Anklets are not permitted.
- Clear lip balm to repair damaged or sore lips is permitted.
- Clear nail polish is permitted.
- Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.
- Smart watches or accessories that have the capacity to connect to the internet, record images or audio are not permitted as per the Victorian Department of Education Mobile Phone Policy.

NOTE: WITH PRIOR CONSULTATION - Only necklaces of religious/ethnic/cultural belief are permitted- they must be short in length and are of fine quality (eg gold/silver necklace which would break easily and pose no choking hazard) **Only those with an approved religious pendant are permitted with prior consultation with the principal, to ensure its suitability and safety.** It must be worn tucked underneath the school t-shirt and always remain not visible. Your child may be asked to button their t-shirt.

Hair and Headwear

Hair hygiene is paramount not only to your child's overall presentation within the school and our broader community, but most importantly to the health and safety of the individual and groups of students. **Long hair (hair longer than shoulder length) that is not tied back poses greater risk of the contraction and spread of headlice and increases the risk of scalping should it be caught in any way.**

- Hair should be kept neat and tidy - Hair should be kept off the student's face and at all times be neat, tidy and presentable. Your child may be asked to tie or pin their hair back during activities that their teacher deems to pose OH&S concerns eg during sport, science, music, art etc. Or if it poses any visibility concerns during their learning or impacts on maintaining respectful conversations with adults, teachers or guest presenters.
- It is expected that students with **hair that is at waist length or longer is always tied back** – this is an OHS concern and your child is at greater risk of contracting or spreading head lice, and scalping if it becomes caught in anyway.
- Students who are representing or presenting in a formal setting on behalf of the school (eg assemblies, school presentations etc) will be asked to tie their hair back.
- If there is a reported case of headlice, students with hair that is longer than shoulder length will be asked to tie their hair back until the outbreak subsides.

EXTREME HAIR COLOURS and STYLES

- Extreme colours such as, and not limited to, green, yellow, orange, blue, red, black, burgundy, pink, purple, semi-permanent or permanent, rinses, chalks, sprays or dyes are not permitted
- Extreme hairstyles such as spikes or mohawks, goth/emo, or styles that permanently cover part or all the student's eyes, or styles that have excessive amounts of hair product, (eg hair gel/wax/hairspray) are not permitted.
- Hair extensions – either natural or coloured are not permitted.
- Parents will be asked to return the child's hair to its natural colour or style immediately (or prove that they are making reasonable steps to return the hair to its natural colour or style) before their child can return. *Exceptions made for the use of hair chalks, hair sprays and styles for organised fundraising or particular social events such as the fete, crazy hair days, dress up days or movie nights, where permission by the principal has been given).*

HEADWEAR –

- neutral coloured, navy blue, or black head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies”, or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs can be worn.
- Hair accessories such as large coloured bows, ribbons, or clips, novelty headbands (eg animal ears) etc, are not permitted.
- Elastic bands/hair ties used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

HATS– to be worn in Term 1 and Term 4 -

- Navy broadbrim (Sun Safe School Approved) without decoration or brand name. Due to OH&S requirements we recommend that hats do not have draw strings/chords that would tie around the neck, as these can pose a choking hazard.
- Caps, cowboy hats, novelty hats etc are not permitted.
- Hats are not to be worn inside.

SUNGLASSES –

- 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.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from **Border Corporate Uniforms and Trade Wear**, 176 High Street Wodonga.

Hats can be purchased at school for \$10.00

SECOND HAND CLOTHING - Some limited second uniform clothing is available at the school.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the principal 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

Barnawartha Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and provided with a hard copy on enrolment and at the beginning of each school year. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students in breach of the dress code will be expected to make changes at school if possible, eg provided with a hair tie, make up/nail polish remover, hair brush to remove spikes, mohawk, or spare uniform. OR parents will be called to collect their child and make the necessary changes to uphold the dress code. For example, in the case of extreme hair colour or hair style or clothing, if the school does not have a spare to replace with for the day.

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 immediately 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

Barnawartha 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
- Reminders on uEducateUs
- 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

- Sunsmart Policy
- Parent Complaint Policy
- 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	November 2024
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2028

BARNAWARTHA PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

CLOTHING

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

Jumper or Vest

Navy blue polar fleece, jumper with school logo

Navy blue vest fleece with school logo

Hoodies are not permitted as part of our uniform.

School Polo shirts

Navy blue with red panels - long and short sleeved, with school logo purchased at **Border Corporate Uniforms and Trade Wear** Wodonga.

Dresses

Navy blue and white checked dress.

Socks or tights/stockings

- Navy blue, black or white socks that are no longer than calf length when extended.
- Compression socks are permitted but they must be either navy blue, black or white (not coloured).
- Navy blue tights/stockings – if worn, should be worn under a skirt/skort/dress.
- No knee-high socks or extreme colour socks.

Shorts/skorts/trackpants/pants/leggings

- Plain navy blue- trackpants, cargo pants or trouser/pants, skorts, shorts (no branding or logos)
- Navy blue leggings – these are not to have any brand/labels
- Demein is not permitted.
- Bike shorts that are less than 3/4 in thigh length are not permitted (except for competitive sports events eg athletics and Cross Country).
- Exercise/active wear pants are not permitted (except for competitive sports events eg athletics and Cross Country)

Rain Coat (Optional Item)

- Navy Blue School Jacket with school logo – this can be ordered at **Border Corporate Uniforms and Trade Wear** and through our school, by contacting the principal to order through **State Schools' Relief**.
- Raincoats and jackets (of any colour) are permitted to be worn outside during cold weather. They must not have any advertising, political or religious statements, or reference to sex, drug or alcohol use.

Footwear

- Clean, durable and appropriate footwear is to be worn.
- Summer sandals with covered toes.
- Sneakers/runners.
- Thongs, ballet flats, cowboy style boots, skate shoes or open-toed sandals are not permitted.
- Gum boots (outside) and slippers (inside) can be brought to school to change into during the day during winter months.