

## STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Wahgunyah 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 developed by Wahgunyah Primary 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.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Wahgunyah Primary 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

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

The full list of Wahgunyah Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

#### General appearance

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

- Efforts should be made to ensure that uniforms are clean and in good repair (no rips or holes)
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name

#### Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Necklaces and bracelets are not to be worn due to the related safety issues.

Makeup is not to be worn at school. Nails should be kept short, tidy and natural.

## **Hair and Sun safety**

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety.

Extreme hair colours (for example, green, pink or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles are not permitted. Students/parents will be contacted and asked to resolve the issue (non-permanent colour to be washed out, permanent colour to be dyed back to normal) before returning to school the following day.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August 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 or student choice. However, 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.

## **PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS**

The majority of uniform items can be purchased from Brunella School Wear Corowa. Families are welcome to purchase uniform items (such as shorts and pants) from other suppliers, providing they are a close match. Where a logo is required (eg. a navy jumper purchased from target, Brunella are able to add the school logo for a small fee.

## **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Principal or Wellbeing Coordinator 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**

Wahgunyah Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through parent emails at the beginning of the year, regularly via our newsletter and our website. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, the family will be sent a text message (via Compass) to identify the issue. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence a phone call home may be required from the Wellbeing Coordinator or Principal. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Wahgunyah 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 where appropriate (eg. where a student refuses to correct the issue and has control over this decision).

## **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 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**

Wahgunyah 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*, available by request at the front office.

## **COMMUNICATION**

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- 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

- Wahgunyah Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Wahgunyah Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Wahgunyah Primary School 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	August 2021
Consultation	11 <sup>th</sup> August 2021, school council refined and confirmed new policy
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2025

## APPENDIX A: WAHGUNYAH PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

The following items may be worn all year round. Please note, items marked with a \* are only available from Brunella School Wear, Corowa.

### Jumper

- Navy jumper with school logo

### Polo shirts\*

- Navy-blue polo with white accents school with school logo

### Shorts

- Plain navy-blue shorts (with only minor decoration or brand names)

### Pants

- Plain navy-blue slacks/track pants (with only minor decoration or brand names)
- Navy-blue leggings

### Summer Dress\*

- Blue and white checked dress
- Bike shorts permitted underneath summer dress only

### Skort

- Plain navy-blue skort

### Socks

- White, black or navy-blue socks

### Footwear

- Shoes appropriate for physical activity worn (eg. runners)
- Black school shoes and summer sandals (with covered toes) are also permitted however not recommended due to the active nature of our curriculum

### School Spray Jacket\*

- Navy-blue coat with white stripes

### Headwear

- Navy broadbrim with school logo\*
- Elastic hair bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour
- Navy-blue beanie with school logo\*

### Skivvies / undershirt

- Long sleeve white or navy-blue shirts may be worn under school polo shirt

**Not permitted:**

- Non-navy coloured shorts, pants, jumpers etc.
- Items with prominent non-school logos
- Short tights/bike pants, jeans, cords, cargos, or tartans
- Impractical footwear (soft, flimsy-soled or slip-on)