

# School Uniform Policy

## Summary

At Blakeview Primary School, our school uniform identifies us as belonging to our community and reflects our standards and expectations. It has been developed in consultation with all stakeholders and ratified by the Governing Council. In developing this policy, we have considered the diverse nature of our community ensuring that no members are disadvantaged by economic, personal, social or cultural factors.

## Purpose

The purpose of our School Uniform Policy is to provide for parents and students, a clear and common understanding of what is required in the wearing of our school uniform.

A school uniform eliminates for parents and students, unnecessary costs associated with fashion trends and peer pressure. Research indicates schools with a policy on full school uniform are more likely to be high-performing academically and less prone to high rates of bullying, exclusion, absenteeism, suspension, and poor student behaviour choices.

## Scope

This policy applies to all Blakeview Primary School students, staff members and guardians/caregivers.

The Student School Dress Code applies to all Blakeview Primary School students.

## Policy

Blakeview Primary school is a full uniform school, our school colours are **navy blue** and **light blue**. The School Uniform Policy communicates the requirements for the full uniform and school colours through:

- Student School Dress Code; and
- Guidelines.

A Student Dress Code Guide (short form of this policy) is available:

- In school publications, including enrolment packs; and
- On the school's website: <https://www.blakevwps.sa.edu.au/>

## Student School Dress Code

The Student School Dress Code (refer Appendix 1) sets out the requirements for the school uniform, to be followed by all students attending Blakeview Primary School.

The Student School Dress Code stipulates the official school uniform clothing, and offers plain compliant alternatives, to give parents choices when purchasing school clothes (plain means no patterns or logos, and

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only in the colours specified, with no other colours). The requirements for other items such as hair and make-up are also specified in the Student School Dress Code.

## Guidelines

When adhering to the Student School Dress Code, the following Guidelines apply as part of this policy:

- All items can be worn all year round
- Items must be worn in the manner described in the Student School Dress Code
- Uniform must be clean and in good repair
- It is encouraged that uniforms are labelled with student's name to aid recovery if items are lost
- The uniform is to be worn during school hours and when engaged in school activities out of normal hours of operation, unless directed by a staff member

## Changes to School Uniform Policy

Requests to change the School Uniform Policy, Student School Dress Code and/or Guidelines:

- **Staff or parents/caregivers** – Requests can be made in writing to the Principal or Deputy Principal, which will be forwarded to the Governing Council.
- **Students** – Requests can be made in writing to Student Leadership, which will be forwarded to the Governing Council.

The Governing Council will advise the Principal of its deliberations following a request to change the School Uniform Policy, Student School Dress Code and/or Guidelines.

If the Principal is satisfied with the advice of the Governing Council, they will make a decision on the request.

If the request is approved, the school community will be advised accordingly.

If the request is denied, the petitioner will be advised of the decision and, if appropriate (but not necessarily), the reason(s) for the decision.

If further information is required, the petitioner believes the request has not received due consideration, or the request requires amending, the matter will be referred to the Governing Council for action.

## Exemptions

### Individual student requests

The Principal, in consultation with Governing Council Chairperson, will give due consideration to any request for an exemption. In deciding, the Principal will consider a student's culture and ethnicity, gender expression, disability, religion, socio-economic hardship, genuine medical circumstances and/or any other additional circumstances as determined.

If the decision is not to grant an exemption, the guardian/caregiver will be advised. If a guardian/caregiver remains dissatisfied with the decision, they should seek clarification with the Principal.

It is the responsibility of the family to seek an exemption. Failure to seek an exemption will be regarded as non-compliance.

## Exemptions – Medical

If a student cannot wear school uniform due to medical reasons:

- The student must go to their GP to get a Health Care Plan which outlines the materials they can and cannot wear.
- Based on the Health Care Plan, the school will source appropriate uniform items from a supplier which will have a logo on it.
- The Principal or Deputy Principal may grant a short-term exemption.

## Exemptions – Casual Days or Special Events

On a casual day, sports day or special event, all students or a cohort of students may be exempted from wearing the school uniform, noting:

- Permission to hold casual days must be sought through the proposal process (refer *Changes to school uniform*)
- Parents and/or students will be notified of casual days by any means that is deemed appropriate.
- The wearing of casual clothing on casual days is voluntary.

Students must wear clean, appropriate, casual clothes on casual days which includes an acceptable standard of decency:

- Bare midriffs or revealing clothing is unacceptable – including, but not limited to, sculpted bike shorts, scrunch bum leggings or mini-skirts.
- Clothing that is offensive, likely to disrupt or negatively influence the normal operations of the school, unsafe for students or others, and/or is likely to result in a risk to the health of the student or others is unacceptable. E.g., roller shoes, offensive slogans/images, fish net tights, etc.
- All casual clothing must cover shoulders and be compliant with the school's Sun Smart Policy (no tank or singlet tops)
- Colour Zinc and hairspray to be applied at home only (Sports Events or Crazy hair days)
- No make-up or unsafe jewellery
- Enclosed footwear and hats are still required
- Failure to observe an acceptable standard of dress on a casual or special event day will be deemed to be non-compliance

## Identifying non-compliance

Compliance with the School Uniform Policy will be monitored by staff throughout their daily activities.

Families are encouraged to talk to with their respective teacher(s) when compliance with the School Uniform Policy may not be possible.

A single occurrence of non-compliance must be accompanied by a note from parents/caregivers signed and dated, stating the reason for the non-compliance.

# Responding to non-compliance

When non-compliance with the School Uniform Policy is identified, staff will take appropriate action proportional to the nature of the non-compliance. Non-compliance will be initially followed up by teachers and then referred to the leadership team if the non-complying behaviour continues.

If the non-compliance with the School Uniform Policy presents a safety hazard, a student may be:

- Excluded from entering a practical area without covered shoes, for failing to tie their hair back, removing jewellery/accessories when requested, in for example, the kitchen or garden.
- Excluded from participation in a PE lesson if the appropriate shoes are not worn.
- Moved to alternative learning program.

If an item of clothing is not part of the school uniform, the student will be asked to remove the item and place it in their bag.

Staff will contact parents if a loan item has been given, e.g., underpants, socks or jumpers. Parents/caregivers will then wash and returned any borrowed items the next school day.

Staff may contact parent to bring in alternative uniform.

## Legislation

Under Regulation 39 of the *Education and Children's Services Act 2019* (the Act), the Principal of Blakeview Primary School and Governing Council are authorised to set the school dress code.

### 39 – Dress codes

(1) The Chief Executive may issue administrative instructions under section 9 of the Act in relation to—

- (a) dress codes to be adopted by schools; and
- (b) the means by which governing councils of schools are to consult with students and persons who are responsible for students enrolled at the school in determining dress codes.

(2) The governing council of a school may—

- (a) in accordance with any administrative instructions referred to in subregulation (1); and
- (b) after consulting with students and persons who are responsible for students enrolled at the school in accordance with any administrative instructions referred to in subregulation (1) and having regard to their views, determine a dress code for the school.

(3) A dress code adopted by a school should, regardless of a student's gender, be flexible and allow the right of choice and gender expression, including the choice of clothing that takes account of the following:

- (a) freedom of movement;
- (b) level of comfort;
- (c) safety;
- (d) climatic condition; and
- (e) other special circumstances

(4) The Principal of a school must, on the adoption by the school of a dress code, inform the persons who are responsible for each student enrolled at the school and, on the later enrolment of a student at the school, inform the persons who are responsible for that student, in writing of—





- (a) the dress code of the school; and
- (b) their right to request the exemption of the student from that dress code.




(5) The Principal of a school may, on being requested in writing by a person responsible for a student enrolled at the school to exempt the student from the dress code of the school, to exempt the student.

(6) Subject to subregulation (5), the Principal of a school must enforce the dress code of the school and may take appropriate disciplinary action in relation to wilful and persistent breach of the dress code but the dress code may not be enforced by a suspension, exclusion or expulsion of a student from the school or by otherwise precluding the student from participating in the educational program of the school.

(7) Where this regulation refers to an act to be carried out by or in relation to persons who are responsible for a student enrolled at the school, the regulation will, in relation to a student who is not less than 18 years of age, be taken to refer to the act as carried out by or in relation to that student.

# Appendix 1 – Student School Dress Code

<p>School Short Sleeve Polo Shirt – two styles available</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School logo short sleeve shirt</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Plain navy short sleeve shirt</li> <li>3. Plain navy t-shirt</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No visible high profile brand name or logos</li> <li>• No offensive images or slogans</li> </ul>
<p>School Long Sleeve Polo Shirt</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School logo long sleeve shirt</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Plain navy long sleeve shirt</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No visible high profile brand name or logos</li> <li>• No offensive images or slogans</li> </ul>
<p>School Quarter Zip Jumper</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School logo zip jumper</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Plain navy jumper</li> <li>3. Plain navy jacket</li> <li>4. Plain navy hoodie</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No visible high profile brand name or logos</li> <li>• No offensive images or slogans</li> </ul>
<p>School Bomber Jackets</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School bomber jacket</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Plain navy parker</li> <li>3. Plain navy puffer</li> <li>4. Plain navy vest</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No visible high profile brand name or logos</li> <li>• No offensive images or slogans</li> </ul>

<p>Unisex Shorts and Pants</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. None</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Plain navy fleece pants</li> <li>3. Plain navy trousers</li> <li>4. Plain navy long athletic shorts – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ must be knee-length (see photo)</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Plain navy tights/leggings – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ must be knee-length or longer, and</li> <li>○ must <b>not</b> be embellished leggings, e.g. scrunch bum, designer holes</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No bike shorts</li> <li>• No denim jeans or denim shorts</li> <li>• No rips or tears</li> <li>• No overly baggy or long pants</li> <li>• No visible high profile brand name or logos</li> <li>• No offensive images or slogans</li> </ul>
<p>School Dresses</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. School dress light blue and navy</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. None</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dress length must measure to just over the kneecap</li> </ul>
<p>School Bucket Hats</p> 	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All children are to wear the school logo approved hat only. Wearing hats is compulsory in Terms 1, 3 and 4 (refer Sun Smart Policy).</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. None</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hats need to be in good condition</li> <li>• No rips or tears on the brim</li> </ul>



<p>Socks and Tights</p>	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any socks are permitted, plain is preferred</li> <li>• Plain navy tights or stockings only to be worn underneath school uniform (e.g. dresses or shorts)</li> </ul> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No visible high profile brand name or logos</li> <li>• No offensive images or slogans</li> </ul>
<p>Jewellery and make-up</p>	<p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No make-up of any kind, including but not limited to foundation, mascara or lip stick</li> <li>• No nail polish or fake nails, including clear colour</li> <li>• A small necklace (with or without a small pendant) is permitted</li> <li>• Watch (not smart watch) or medic alert bracelet is permitted</li> <li>• Piercings are restricted to studs and small sleepers in the ear lobe; no other facial/body piercings</li> </ul>
<p>Hair</p>	<p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal hair accessories (e.g. ties, scrunchies) are permitted in school colours – navy, light blue</li> </ul>
<p>Footwear</p> <p><u>Important note on footwear</u></p> <p>If children are sent to school in shoes that do not conform to this Dress Code and staff determine their shoes may pose a safety risk for an activity or area (e.g. physical education, kitchen, garden), then your child may be excluded from the activity, as per the ‘Responding to non-compliance’ section of the Uniform Policy.</p>	<p><b>Official uniform</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. None</li> </ol> <p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Fully enclosed shoes</li> </ol> <p><b>Dress code requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No thongs, high heels, thigh high boots, slides, platforms or Ugg boots</li> <li>• No shoes that slip off easily</li> </ul>