

# Mount Martha Primary School Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Mount Martha Primary School Office 0359742800 or email Mount.Martha.PS@education.vic.gov.au

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mount Martha 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 Mount Martha 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
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.
- to provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment.
- Provide sun protective clothing

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.

The wearing of the designated school uniform will be compulsory at Mount Martha Primary School. School Council requires the principal be responsible for implementation of the Dress Code in a manner consistent with the Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy <a href="MMPS Website Policy Page">MMPS Website Policy Page</a>. Parents/carers teachers, and students are responsible for ensuring that the appropriate uniform is worn.



#### **UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE**

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

## **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 should be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Any make up or nail polish must be neutral tones only
- Body transfers are not permitted
- Extreme hair colours (e.g.: green, pink, or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (e.g.: spikes or mohawks) are not permitted.
- The only school bag/backpack is a Mount Martha bag bearing the school logo.

## **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. Hair ties/bands are to be navy, white or red
- School uniform hats must be worn outside from 15th -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/carer or student choice. Hats are to be worn outside only.
- 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.
- The student Dress Code, including details of uniform items and places of purchase, will be published in the newsletter at the start of each year.

#### **PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS**

Uniform items can be purchased from PSW 1/22 Watt Road, MORNINGTON, 3931 03 9768 0346Parents may order it directly from PSW <a href="https://www.psw.com.au/schools/mount-martha-primary-school.html">https://www.psw.com.au/schools/mount-martha-primary-school.html</a>. Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores. Second-hand uniform items are available from swap boxes in the Gym foyer

## Uniform items are listed in Appendix A

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, including by providing swap boxes in the Gym Foyer with free uniform items donated by families. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the <u>Help with school costs and fees</u> page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep or year



7 and is eligible to receive support via the <u>Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund</u>, you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through <u>State Schools'</u> Relief.

Please contact the principal or assistant principals to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Mount Martha Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, newsletter, school tours and information sessions. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents/carers by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the student dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the principal/assistant principal will be informed, and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Mount Martha 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.

## **EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE**

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may impact students differently.

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 the code:
  - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the <u>personal characteristics referred to in human</u> rights and anti-discrimination requirements
  - o 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 the parents/carers can demonstrate financial 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
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

#### CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Mount Martha 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 Complaint Policy MMPS Website Policy Page.

#### 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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- parent/carers
- teachers and other school staff
- students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

# **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- MMPS Sun Protection Policy <u>MMPS Website Policy Page.</u>
- MMPS Complaint Policy <u>MMPS Website Policy Page.</u>
- MMPS Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy MMPS Website Policy Page.
- Department of Education and Training <u>Student Dress Code</u>
- Department of Education and Training <u>Student Engagement policies and guidelines</u>.

#### POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- Compass Posts
- information in newsletters
- student meetings



information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Policy last reviewed	
Consultation	
Approved by	
Next scheduled review date	November 2028

# **APPENDIX A Mount Martha Primary School UNIFORM ITEMS**

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season.
- Approved commemorative uniform items such as the year 6 top are accepted as part of the uniform.

Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.

#### **UNIFORM ITEMS**

\*School backpack bearing the Mount Martha Primary School logo

#### **Summer Uniform:**

- \*Red and white gingham dress
- \*Ink navy windcheater or fleecy vest or jacket
- \*Red, or ink navy Polo shirt

Ink navy shorts or trousers

Ink navy shorts or skorts

Socks white, ink navy or red

Sturdy school shoes, sneakers or closed toe and heal sandals

Navy slouch/bucket hat

Red, white or ink navy hair ties and head bands

#### Winter Uniform:

- \*Ink, navy, long red or white sleeve crew-neck Tee-shirt
- \*Ink navy, long red sleeve polo shirts

Ink, navy, red or white long-sleeved skivvy
Ink navy tracksuit pants or gaberdine trousers

\*Winter tartan pinafore or skirt

Socks white, ink navy or red

\*Ink navy windcheater

Ink navy tracksuit pants.

Ink navy boot-leg pants.

Red or ink navy fleecy beanies

<sup>\*</sup>These items are available from PSW 1/22 Watt Road, MORNINGTON, 3931 03 9768 0346Parents may order it directly from PSW <a href="https://www.psw.com.au/schools/mount-martha-primary-school.html">https://www.psw.com.au/schools/mount-martha-primary-school.html</a>



Red, white or ink navy hair ties and head bands Navy tights Full length Navy leggings Ink, navy, red or white scarf

## Year Five and Six students only

- \*Short Sleeve Sublimated Polo Shirt
- \*Long Sleeve Sublimated Polo Shirt

## **Year Six Only**

\*Named rugby top, orders through school office.

## **Shoes:**

School shoes or sport shoes. Covered toe shoes are always required. Sports shoes are to be worn for all P.E. lessons.