

Student Dress Code Policy

Written by	School Council
Date approved by School Council	June 2019
Date of Review	June 2022

Rationale

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mount Eliza North Primary Schools requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

Mount Eliza North Primary Schools Student Dress Code has been developed in accordance with the Department's Student Dress Code policy guidance on the School Policy and Advisory Guide.

This dress code has been developed by Mount Eliza North Primary Schools School Council in 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 Mount Eliza North Primary Schools 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.

General appearance

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

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- 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 cosmetics

Mount Eliza North Primary School 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.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school, only clear nail polish is permitted.

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.

School uniform hats must be worn outside in Term 1 & 4 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.

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

Uniform items can be purchased from the Mount Eliza North Primary School Uniform Shop located in the School Hall. Operating hours Monday 8.30 – 10.00 am and Wednesday 3.15 – 4.15 pm. Parents may print an order form (available on school website) and hand in with payment to the school office. All ordered items will be delivered to the child in their classrooms.

The school uniform shop also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents.

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

Mount Eliza North Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Parent Portal. 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. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the 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 Eliza North 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 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 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 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

Mount Eliza North 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 on the school website.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Mount Eliza North Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Mount Eliza North Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Mount Eliza North 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](#).

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle