STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Mandama Primary School.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mandama 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 Mandama 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, safety concerns 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 Mandama 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.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Mandama 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 on all items.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.
- Hair ties are to be either black, blue or white in colour. All students with shoulder length hair or longer will have their hair tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Extreme hair colours (eg: green, pink or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (eg: Mohawks) are not permitted – except for special "dress-up" events.
- Navy blue or black scarves and gloves may be worn
- For school photos, students are expected to be in full school uniform with shoulder length hair tied back.

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.
- Other than lip balm, cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Sun safety

- School uniform hats must be worn outside from the beginning of Term 4 until the end of Term 1 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, and on hot days.
- 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 Noone Uniform Shop, Centreway Arcade 6/168 High Street Belmont. Noone Uniform Shop online. Go to: www.noone.com.au /shop/find-my-school/ and type Mandama Primary School into the 'find my school' tab.
School hats are available from the school office.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Student Wellbeing Officer 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

Mandama Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website. 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 by the classroom teacher. 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.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

Parents/carers seeking exemptions to the Uniform Dress code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.
Exemptions to this Student Dress Code may be sought 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

Mandama 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*, available on our website.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Mandama Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

Choose uniform most suitable to weather forecast
Hats: • Broad-brimmed Plain – navy blue • Plain or Reversable and adjustable navy bucket hat with Mandama school logo. Reversable inside with student's house colour.
Tops: • Short or long sleeve polo shirt with logo – navy blue • 'Mandama Mob' Indigenous short sleeved polo • 1/2 zip or full zip polar fleece jumper/jacket with logo – navy blue • Sports jacket with logo – navy blue with sky blue panel • Lightweight coat – navy blue or black • Grade 5/6 jumper with logo – navy blue with sky blue trim • Special Grade 6 polo shirt.
Pants: • Bootleg pants – navy blue. • Trackpants – navy blue • Shorts – navy blue (mid-thigh length unless worn under a dress) • Skorts– navy blue • Navy tights or leggings under dresses/skorts
Dresses: • Summer dress – blue and white check • School Kilt
Footwear: • Socks – black, blue or white plain socks. • School shoes or runners – (No slip-ons or gimmicky shoes e.g. roller shoes). • Pull on short, elasticised leather boots.

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
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Mandama Sunsmart Policy
- Mandama Complaints Policy
- Mandama Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code
- Department of Education and Training Student Engagement policies and guidelines.

REVIEW CYCLE

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	19th May 2025
Consultation	Student Voice & Agency representatives School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	May 2028

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council on 20th March 2023 and is scheduled for review annually.

- The Department's Student Dress Code policy requires school councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required.