

## STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



### Help For Non-English Speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Western Port Secondary College on 03 5979 1577 or [western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au).

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Western Port Secondary College's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This Policy has been developed by Western Port Secondary College'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 Policy aims to:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- 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
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

### SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code Policy while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

### UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Sample lists of uniform items as an Appendix to the policy. Note: the choice of uniform items must comply with the department's Student Dress Code Policy.

### PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the uniform shop Beleza, located at 8/13 Eramosa Road West, Somerville, or parents/carers may order it directly from [Beleza](#). Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) 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 [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

Please contact the College at [western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:western.port.sc@education.vic.gov.au) or on 59791577 to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

## IMPLEMENTATION

Western Port Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code Policy and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website [here](#) and the General Information Handbook. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student attends school out of school uniform, the student will be asked by a principal class member or their delegate to enter the Reset Centre for the following discussion:

- If the student has a note with a reasonable excuse for being out of school uniform, a uniform pass will be provided;  
or
- In the absence of a note:
  - Replacement uniform offered if appropriate to do so or available; or
  - A phone call made to a parent/carer to discuss a plan to ensure student compliance with the uniform policy; and
  - A referral made for a State School Relief voucher upon request.

## EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code Policy may impact students differently. Students and their parents or carers may apply in writing 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 [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
  - 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/carer
- 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.

## CONCERN ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

Western Port Secondary College 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 Policy, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Complaint Policy*, available [here](#).

## COMMUNICATION

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

- available publicly on our school's website

- included in the College general information handbook
- included in staff handbook/manual
- included in transition and enrolment packs
- hard copy available from school administration upon request.

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 over a 2 week period. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Western Port Secondary College Complaint Policy
- Western Port Secondary College Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Western Port Secondary College Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

#### POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

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

- College Council
- Compass communication
- Parent/Carer and Student voice

Policy last reviewed	November 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2028

#### APPENDIX A: WESTERN PORT SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

- Students can wear any uniform item regardless of season.
- Approved commemorative uniform items such as the year 12 jumper is accepted as part of the uniform.

Uniform items where College logo is compulsory and must be purchased from Beleza
<p><i>Jacket/Jumper option options (select 1 or more)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Fleece ¼ zip Jumper:</b> Green and black College logo</li> <li>– <b>Soft Shell full zip Jacket:</b> Green and black with College logo</li> <li>– <b>Puffer Jacket:</b> Green and black with College logo</li> </ul> <p><i>Shirt options which must be worn under Jacket/Jumper (select 1 or more)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– <b>Polo Shirt:</b> Long or short sleeved polo: white striping on collar and Forest Green in colour with logo</li> <li>– <b>Business Shirt:</b> Long or short sleeved shirt with College logo</li> </ul>

**Please note:** The v-neck jumpers with the old logo will no longer be accepted but can be swapped for a fleece  $\frac{1}{4}$  jumper (pending stocks). Non uniform items under jackets, jumpers or shirts must be plain black, white or forest green. Hoodies are not permitted at any time under or over uniform items

Uniform items where College logo is **not compulsory** and can be purchased from any supplier

- **Shorts:** Dark grey Melange/business style school shorts (cargo style/denim not accepted)
- **Pants:** Dark grey Melange/business style school slacks (cargo style/denim not accepted)
- **Summer Dress/ Summer Skirt:** Green check "Cleolene" material (also available from [Beleza](#))
- **Winter Skirt:** McKinnon Hunting Tartan (also available from [Beleza](#))
- **Shoes:** All black shoes without white or colour logos. Open toe, croc style, slipper type shoes are not permitted. If unsure, please contact the College.
- **Socks:** Plain white/black socks
- **Tights:** Black (no leggings or tracksuit style pants) worn with winter skirt
- **Caps/Beanies:** College logo cap or primarily black, grey or forest green (no large or offensive logos)
- **Scarf:** Plain forest green, black or white (combination of these colours are permitted)
- **Hair ties:** In school colours
- **Headwear** Worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs

Sports Uniform items where College logo is **compulsory** and must be purchased from Beleza

- **Sports Shirt:** Sport material with college logo

Sports Uniform items where College logo is **not compulsory** and can be purchased from Beleza (while stocks last) or any supplier

- **Shorts:** All black sport material in basketball style (with logo available from Beleza)
- **Pants:** All black tracksuit pant or all black leggings. (with logo available from Beleza)
- **Leggings:** All black leggings (WPSC style available from Beleza)
- **Shoes:** Any sport style runner or shoe with non marking sole (year 7+8)

Note the College PE uniform is only to be worn on yr 7/8 Sport Education days, excursion days (if applicable) or changed into/out of for HPE/OED subjects

**Interschool Sports** : Where there are uniform requirements for students participating in specialist sports such as netball, football etc These uniforms are provided by the school on the day and to be returned same day.

**General Information Regarding Uniform and Appearance**

- Excessive amounts of make-up and jewellery are not to be worn at school
- Unsuitable/ unsafe extremes of clothing (including singlets) or jewellery will not be permitted
- Hair must be of natural colour and hair styles are to be worn so as not to attract undue attention
- Students must be appropriately dressed for practical activities within the College for both hygienic and safety reasons.
- It is compulsory to always wear safe, closed toe shoes throughout the College or on excursions.

The principal reserves the right to all final decisions made about a student's appearance/dress code. Any student who refuses to comply with the Student Dress Code Policy will face disciplinary measures.