

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school office.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Knox Park 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 Knox Park 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
- support Knox Park 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. As with all other areas of financial difficulty, parents are encouraged to make arrangements with the Principal regarding provision of uniform items for their children. Any reviews or amendments to the school's dress code policy must be considered in consultation with the school community, via the school's website and fortnightly newsletter, the staff, School Council, and the Student Action Team (SAT).

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. Uniform is to be worn on a daily basis unless exemption has been granted by the Principal, in line with DET policy.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Staff will actively monitor and encourage the wearing of full school uniform.

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

- Knox Park PS Short Sleeve Polo
- Knox Park PS Long Sleeve Polo
- Navy shorts or tracksuit pants
- Navy skort
- Knox Park PS fleece Lined Waterproof Jacket
- Knox Park PS Zip Bomber Jacket

- Knox Park PS Contrast Hoodie with logo
- Knox Park PS Winter Tunic
- Knox Park Primary School summer dress
- Knox Park PS legionnaire or Surf Hat which complies with the Sun Smart policy.
- Socks and hair accessories, should be dark in colours or white.
- Year 6 jumper or polo shirt (year 6 students only)
- Knox Park PS Sports Shirt (grades 5 and 6 students only)
- Students are also required to supply an Art smock to protect their school uniform.

Shoes

- Runners or black leather school shoes are permitted. Shoes must have enclosed toes.

Optional

- Knox Park Primary School backpack (Active Pak) This item is highly encouraged

Religious or cultural requirements

- Navy religious and cultural headwear, clothing lengths or adornments such as certain jewellery, will be accommodated within the school's dress code, following discussion with the Principal and parents/carers.

General appearance

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

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- All uniform items 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 / 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. Large hoops and earrings that dangle from the ear may not be worn for safety reasons. Nail to be kept at an appropriate length.

Hair

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. Extreme haircuts and colours are permitted at the Principal's discretion.

Sun safety

Knox Park Primary School uniform will be in line with the School's **SunSmart Policy**. School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) 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 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.

Free dress days

Free Dress Days will be approved as appropriate by the Principal. Items of clothing must be appropriate.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

School uniform items can be purchased online directly from the school's supplier, with a 'try on' option offered by the Parents' Association. Supplier details are included in school newsletters or are available from the school office.

Knox Park Primary School Parents' Association also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Hours advertised in newsletter.

Items of uniform approved to be worn without a logo can be purchased outside of the school supplier and must be of the same colour.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the office or the Principal or 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

Knox Park Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students as described in the Communication section of this policy. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to attend the next day in school uniform. 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.

Measures taken by Knox Park 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 classroom teacher or 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 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. The Principal to provide written reasons when not allowing an exemption.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Knox Park 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's website.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings where required
- Reminders in our school newsletter as needed
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Knox Park Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Knox Park Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Knox Park 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](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	22 May 2023
Consultation	Education Policy Committee Parents' Association Student Action Team School Council Staff
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	Update review – May 2027