



MEREDITH Primary School

Wallace St, Meredith, 3333
P: 03 5286 1313
E: meredith.ps@education.vic.gov.au
W: www.meredithps.vic.edu.au

DRESS CODE – STUDENTS POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Meredith.ps@education.giv.gov.au, or via phone on 03 5286 1313

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Meredith 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 Meredith 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:

- 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.

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.



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UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

It is compulsory for all students to wear the school designated uniform at Meredith Primary School. Clothing items in plain navy blue or white are also acceptable. Blue denim or denim look alike are not acceptable.

- When representing the school in the community students must wear the correct school uniform.
- Plain navy beanies (no logo) or the house beanie, gloves, mittens and navy jackets are acceptable. Please note for safety reasons hooded tops (with exemption of the Year 6 MPS hoodie) are not acceptable as part of the school uniform. Scarves are not permitted during school hours; however, they can be worn to and from school.
- To ensure MPS supports a safe and inclusive school environment, and increases the sense of belonging and engagement of all students, clothing items that support personal characteristics (eg: cultural or religious beliefs) can be worn in plain navy blue or white.
- The school uniform and colours will be listed in the welcome handbook and / or newsletter and posted on the school's website.
- In deciding the uniform, consideration will be given to cost, practicality, health and safety.
- Footwear must have an enclosed toe and heel and should encourage and promote physical activity.
- House colour shirts should only be worn on nominated days.
- School bags should be either a school bag with logo or be plain blue, navy or black.
- In line with the school initiative to promote student voice, Year 5 cohort design their special Year 6 top annually.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Meredith 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
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Any make up or nail polish must be neutral tones only

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Shoulder length hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice for student safety.



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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.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories, hat cords and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

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 through the school via the front office.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the principal or office staff to discuss support that we may be able to provide for 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/>

Meredith Primary School also has uniforms available to families to borrow upon request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Meredith 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.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

If a student is out of uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the students 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 Meredith Primary School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.



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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 carer 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 students from complying with the requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural backgrounds
- An aspect of this 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
- The student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- The students 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 an/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 students and/or their parents/carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Meredith 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 Complaints Policy.

COMMUNICATION

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

- available publicly on our school's website
- Compass
- reminders in our school newsletter
- 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.

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

- parent/carers



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- 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

- Meredith Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Meredith Primary School Complaint Policy
- Meredith Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Meredith Primary School Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	March 2026
Approved by	School Council March 2026
Next scheduled review date	March 2028



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