



Keilor Heights Primary School Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact Keilor Heights PS office on 03 9336 1739

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Keilor Heights 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 Keilor Heights 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 Keilor Heights 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.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Keilor Heights Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Keilor Heights 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

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, (Apple or Smart watches are not permitted as per the Mobile Phone and Wearable Devices policy) are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics or false nails are not permitted at school.

Hair and Sun safety

It is recommended that shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice. Students with shoulder length or longer hair are required to have their hair tied back where they are participating in an activity and it is a safety precaution.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from 1st September (exact date to be set by the school annually) to 30th 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. Caps or other types of hats are not permitted.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

Uniform Length

Shorts, skirts, dresses, skorts and tunics must be worn at a modest length which is:

- respectful of the cultural norms and school community
- is reasonable by contemporary standards and avoids unnecessarily intruding on students' right in matters of personal appearance
- allows for individual expression through alternatives within garment requirements
- takes into account health and safety issues

Colder Weather

Students can wear the school beanie or other beanies/scarves/rain jackets outside during cooler weather. Bottle green or black tights or leggings can be worn under uniform pieces for warmth, but not replace the uniform.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from Lowes School Wear, Westfield Shopping Centre, Airport West or parents/carers may order it directly from www.lowesschoolwear.com.au.

Keilor Heights Primary School Parents' and Friends 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

Keilor Heights 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 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 Keilor Heights 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 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

Keilor Heights 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 our website.

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
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2023
Consultation	May 2023
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	May 2027