

School Dress Code Policy

Rationale/Purpose

The *School Education Regulations 2000* empowers school communities to develop a dress code for the children attending their school. The regulations allow a school to establish what is safe and appropriate to wear at school and on excursions as well as determine what is inappropriate. The relevant Regulation states:

33. *The following matters may be provided for in a government school's dress code:*

- a) *standards of what is acceptable in relation to the clothing worn by students at the school including headwear or footwear;*
- b) *standards of what is acceptable in relation to other aspects of the personal presentation of students.*

Issues relating to the implementation of a school dress code are covered under Regulations 33 – 36 of the *School Education Regulations 2000*.

The School Board determines the standards of what is acceptable clothing to be worn by students at the school. This includes headwear and footwear, and other aspects of personal presentation of students. Having a policy that acknowledges school community support allows the school to make a clear statement about its expectations of the children in this context.

Benefits of Dress Requirements for students:

Dress requirements for students:

- define the identity of the school with its community
- develop students sense of belonging to the school community'
- provide an opportunity to build school spirit
- promotes sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity
- reinforces the perception of the school as an ordered and safe place
- enhance the health and safety of students when involved in school activities
- increase the personal safety of students and staff by allowing easier identification of visitors and potential intruders to the school
- keep cost of school outfits within reasonable limits for parent/scarers
- students learn the importance of appropriate presentation and grooming
- students learn to engage with the community

The Department of Education's **Dress Requirements for Students** states:

"Denim items must be excluded from all school dress codes and uniforms"

Policy Details

The Bunbury Primary school uniform consists of:

Summer Uniform:

- BPS Red (polo style) short sleeve polo with school logo
- BPS Black and Red school polo shirt (Year 6 only)
- Red Checkered dress
- BPS Black skorts skirt
- BPS Black Basketball shorts (airflow)
- BPS Red Tracksuit Jacket
- Black Hat Broad brimmed or bucket

Winter Uniform:

- BPS Red Tracksuit Jacket
- BPS Red Polar Fleece Jumper
- BPS Red (polo style) short sleeve polo with school logo
- BPS Black and Red school polo shirt (Year 6 only)
- Black Basketball shorts (airflow)
- Black Tracksuit Pants or leggings *
- Black Hat Broad brimmed or bucket
- BPS Black Wet Weather Jacket

Please Note: A black or red skivvy can be worn for extra warmth under Bunbury Primary School polo shirts.

* Leggings and tights are different items of clothing. Tights are only to be worn for extra warmth under another garment.

In School Faction Sports: Polo shirt (single coloured) in faction colours: yellow, blue, green or red.

Interschool Sports Representation

- The school provides school shirts for: e.g. Cross country, Soccer, Hockey, Football, Netball
- The school uniform is also used for any interschool sporting events or carnivals. Students representing the school must wear school uniform at any school representation events.

Headwear:

- Headwear needs to be plain and purposeful (not decorative) and reflect school colours (this includes headbands, ribbons, hijabs)
- Sunsafe hats are defined as broad black brimmed hats or bucket type (see sunsafe section)
- Long hair (past shoulder length) to be tied back. This applies to both boys and girls.

Guidelines

- Students are encouraged to wear school uniform to school each day;
- Students will be required to wear school uniform when on school excursions or representing the school in public forums.

Footwear:

- Students need to wear appropriate footwear for the activities in which they are involved;
- Standard school shoes/joggers or sandals-with ankle strap. (Skate shoes, bright coloured, slip on shoes or fashion shoes are not part of the school uniform.)
- White or black ankle length socks need to be worn with shoes and joggers.

Sunsafe:

- Students **must** wear sunsafe hats whilst engaging in outdoor activities, play, recreation and breaks. Sunsafe hats are defined as broad black brimmed hats or bucket type. Students who fail to wear suitable sunsafe hats will be excluded from engaging in outdoor activities until they are equipped with the headwear. The Principal and Teachers can grant exemptions for certain activities in which the wearing of a hat is impractical; for example, athletics events.

Jewellery:

For reasons of safety:

- Sleepers and stud earrings are acceptable
- Any items that are likely to catch or snag are not to be worn. This includes fashion wrist jewellery such as bands and/or bracelets.
- Necklaces should not be worn (unless for medical reasons).
- Any external body piercing needs to be covered.

Make Up:

Make up is not to be worn at school except where foundation is required for cosmetic reasons, and this has been discussed with the Principal or Associate Principal.

Exemptions and Non-Compliance**Exemptions**

A parent/carer may apply to the principal (on behalf of their child) for an exemption from aspects of the dress code on any of the following grounds:

- A matter relating to the child's health;
- A matter relating to religious beliefs of the child or their family;
- A matter relating to the cultural background of the child or their family; and,
- Any other matter which, in the principal's opinion, is sufficient to exempt the child from complying with the requirements.

Exemptions may be granted on a permanent, defined-period or conditional basis and can be revoked by the principal at any time.

Non-Compliance with Dress Code Requirements:

Where a student is not following the school dress code (unless they have an exemption):

- A school Uniform Note will be sent home (*see Appendix 1*)
- The matter will be discussed with their parent/carer;
- The student and their family will be encouraged and counselled to meet the requirements of the dress code (in a positive and caring way, resolving any concerns);
- Students will be unable to publicly represent the school or attend an excursion (unless it is part of the essential educational programme of the school); and

See DOE Dress Requirements for Students in WA public schools for further information.

Support and Assistance

- The school community offers assistance and support to students and their families where difficulties with compliance arise. Parents/carers will need to discuss any assistance or support needed with the school principal and/or associate principal.

School uniform Shop provides low cost items through:

- bulk purchasing arrangements
- clothing exchanges.

Effective Date: November 2016

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