

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact [Valkstone Primary School](mailto:valkstone.ps@education.vic.gov.au) on 03 9570 3986 or valkstone.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Valkstone 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 policy has been developed by Valkstone 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 Policy aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Valkstone 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 policy 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 Policy while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

POLICY

The full list of Valkstone 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, Valkstone 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

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Small stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Students are permitted to wear a small necklace if it represents their culture or religion. If this is to be worn, written permission from parents must be submitted to the school.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun safety

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

School uniform hats must be worn outside from the 1st of September 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 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the school uniform provider Spartan School World (<https://www.spartanschoolworld.com.au/collections/valkstone-primary-school>). A full list of available and acceptable school uniform items can be found on this website. Spartan offers three delivery options: click & collect, school pickup and home delivery.

Valkstone Primary School also runs regular second-hand uniform sales for parents. Dates and times will be communicated to the school community via the school newsletter.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the school office 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

Valkstone Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code Policy 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.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code Policy 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.

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 to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code Policy 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

Valkstone Primary School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code [Policy](#). If you have a concern or complaint about this policy, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on the school website.

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Valkstone Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Valkstone Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Valkstone 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	January 2025
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2026

APPENDIX A – SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS (AS OF NOVEMBER 2024)

<p>Summer dress</p> 	<p>Short sleeve polo shirt</p> 	<p>Long sleeve polo shirt</p> 	<p>House polo – short sleeve</p> <p>**available in red, blue, gold and green</p> 	<p>Windcheater</p> 
<p>Bomber jacket</p> 	<p>Slouch hat</p> 	<p>Reversible adjustable bucket hat</p> <p>**available in red, blue, gold and green</p> 	<p>Beanie</p> 	<p>Double knee cuff track pants</p> 
<p>Skort</p> 	<p>Girl's leisure pants</p> 	<p>Leggings</p> 	<p>Rugby knit shorts</p> 	<p>Winter tunic</p> 
<p>Rain jacket</p> 	<p>Chair bag</p> 	<p>Book bag</p> 	<p>School bag</p> 	<p>Art smock</p> 