

Penola Primary School

Dress Code and Uniform Policy



RATIONALE

A school uniform/dress code policy is in place at Penola Primary School in an effort to improve student safety, relieve peer pressure and provide economical certainty for parents in the purchase of school approved clothing items. Uniforms play an important role in promoting a positive image of the school and creating a sense of identity among students and the community. It is also a mechanism to support and build school morale, respect and a deeper sense of belonging.

Dress Code – Acceptable items of Clothing

At Penola Primary School students are expected to wear the approved polo T-shirt and jumpers which are only available for purchase from the front office.

These uniform items must have the embroidered school logo.

Blue/white checked dresses are also permitted, also available from the office.

Navy or dark (blue or black) pants/shorts/leggings/skirts are to be worn. Winter woollen skirts can be made, please arrange via the front office. Navy tights may be worn under school dresses or skirts.

A blue bucket hat will be required to be worn by all students during outdoor activities in Terms 1 and 4. Any logo displayed on this hat must be the school logo.

Clothing must meet acceptable community standards of neatness and decency e.g. tank tops, crop tops and other items of clothing as determined by the Dress Code are not acceptable.

Dress Code Exclusions

The following items are not part of the approved school uniform/dress code at Penola Primary School and as such, cannot be worn by students:

- Brightly dyed hair (students are permitted to use 'spray on wash out' colour in their hair for Sports Day and identified whole school events)
- Tank tops, Crop tops
- Shorts must be $\frac{1}{2}$ way down to the knee
- Make up including painted or false nails
- Jewellery except for small sleepers or studs in the ears only
- Wallet chains or large belt buckles
- Hooded jumpers
- Preferably head bands and hair ties are to be in the school colour of blue.
- SAPSASA jumpers
- Active wear
- Large logos or patterns on pants/shorts/leggings

Approved School Colours

At our school the approved school colour is navy blue. Clothing items must be solid in colour. Patterned, striped or dotted designs are not part of the school uniform.

Footwear

Closed shoes or runners are acceptable for most school activities. School – type sandals are also approved as suitable at Penola Primary School.

Thongs and open slip on style footwear are not approved as they pose a significant safety risk to students.

Instances of Non-Compliance

Students who choose not to comply with the Penola Primary School dress code may be asked to remove the non complying item of clothing and replace it/them with an approved item of clothing provided (where available) by front office staff.

Students wearing make-up will be asked to remove it immediately under supervision by front office staff.

With discretion, the school principal may follow the procedures outlined by the Department for Education Dress Code to address instances of non-compliance with the approved dress code of the school. These may include:

- Posting a standard letter home to parents requesting compliance with the school dress code and uniform policy.
- Telephoning the parent/s to request compliance with the school dress code and uniform policy.
- Seeking the support of the Education Director aligned to the school

Exemptions

Parents may request that the child is granted an exemption from wearing school uniform. All requests must be made in writing to the Principal. It is unlikely that an exemption on the grounds of financial hardship will be granted because approved school clothing can be purchased inexpensively from the school. A supply of good quality second hand clothing items will also be able for purchase.

Exemptions may be granted on the following grounds:

- ❖ Religious
- ❖ Cultural or ethnic
- ❖ New Student (time to purchase)
- ❖ Genuine medical or family sickness reasons
- ❖ Sensory issues
- ❖ Any other grounds Governing Council may determine.

