



Uniform Policy

Revised June 2016

Dress requirements for students play an important role in promoting a positive image of public schools and creating a sense of identity among students. They are also tangible evidence of the standards expected of students. Traditional styles of uniform will play an important part in keeping up the strong reputation of public schools and ensuring parents continue to send their children to public schools. The dress requirements for each school are developed by the School Board in consultation with students, parents/caregivers and staff, and to suit climate conditions, the diversity of students and the range of activities undertaken by students. Parents/caregivers and students receive information about the school's dress requirements at the time of enrolment and about any likely changes to the dress requirements. Parents/caregivers are asked to take responsibility for outfitting their children according to the dress requirements.

This Policy has been developed to support the Department of Education policy on *Dress Code for Students Policy and Procedures*. The revision of this policy, June 2016, has been developed after consultation with parents, students, staff and the School Board of the school through discussions and feedback.

It is the responsibility of the School Board to develop the Uniform Policy in consultation with the above groups. The result of these consultations, throughout 2016, has resulted in this directive document for the community of Bramfield Park Primary School. *The School Board ratified this Policy in Term 2 2016.*

The uniform has been decided with the following factors in mind:

- *Sun Smart* protection and risk management in terms of skin cancer and other skin problems to do with ultra violet radiation due to direct or indirect sunlight
- Surveys and discussions about uniforms
- DoE Guidelines and the Policy on *Dress Codes for Students Policy and Procedures*.

All students are expected to meet the school dress requirements unless an exemption has been granted for special circumstances.

The contents of this policy follow careful consideration of the availability of garments, type, durability and manufacturer's cost increases for compulsory items. The School Board has decided to assist parents in enforcing our uniform policy by having items readily available in the uniform shop for sale.

The intent of this policy is to

- Define the identity of the school within our community
- Develop students' sense of belonging to the school community
- Provide an opportunity to build school spirit and team building
- Promote a sense of inclusiveness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity.
- Reinforce 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 costs of school outfits within reasonable limits for parents/caregivers
- Help students to learn the importance of appropriate presentation and grooming
- Help students to learn to engage with employers and the community.

Our dress requirements should

- Be attractive, presentable, high quality and of traditional styles
- Be formed to meet local circumstances and weather conditions
- Cater for the needs of both boys and girls as well as the cultural and religious diversity of students
- Promote the health and safety of students by identifying items for particular activities, for example, items for sun protection
- Be easy to wear
- Be reviewed regularly
- Clearly outline presentation and grooming as part of the requirements of our students

DRESS REQUIREMENTS

1. TOPS

- Black zip front (with red stripe down arms) with school logo.
- Black zip lightweight jacket.
- Black polo shirts with red side panels and school logo. These are for multiple-use sports and school uniform.
- Black Year 6 Leavers polo shirts – with black collar and special markings (as required from year to year). These will be ordered at the end of year 5, designed and printed early in term 1 of year 6.

2. PANTS

- Black track/cargo pants - girls or boys - (no stripes or logos of any type)
- Black full length loose fitting pants – Alternative to track pants for girls
- Black skorts - girls
- Black $\frac{3}{4}$ length loose fitting pants
- Black shorts/cargo shorts– no stripes or non-school logos
- Leggings with skirt, skort or shorts over the top. **No leggings are to be worn by themselves.**

3. SHOES

- Shoes – totally closed in variety – sandals or slip-ons not acceptable for safety purposes

4. HATS

As a *Sun Smart School*, our students must wear black bucket hats while participating in outside activities all year round to protect them from the sun's dangerous UV rays. Students are able to be affected by ultra-violet rays at all times of the year in WA. These hats provide maximum protection.

Students not wearing these type of hats will be required to play in shaded areas of the school at all times.

5. OPTIONAL ITEMS

The following items are approved for wear with the school uniform as described above:

- Black Scarves
- Studs or sleepers in ears only
- Watch or Medic Alert bracelet only

The following dress and appearance statements have been established by the School Board as appropriate for our school community at Bramfield Park Primary School.

- Hair at shoulder length must be tied back for health and safety reasons
- Hair colouring of any type is not acceptable while at school
- Students should be neat and well presented at school
- No undergarments or other clothing (not school uniform) must be showing under the uniform
- No jewellery or other ornaments other than described in Section 5 above is acceptable
- Any item of clothing other than the Uniform described above is NOT acceptable

Individual Exemptions from the Dress Requirements

Parents and caregivers may apply for exemption from the dress requirements. Applications are considered by the Principal through an interview arranged specifically for that purpose. A School Board member may be present for such applications if deemed appropriate. An advisory panel will be set up to support students and their families where difficulties with complying with the dress requirements arise. Members of the panel will be sensitive and aware of the needs of confidentiality.

An application for exemption may be granted by the Principal on the following grounds:

- An item is unavailable for a certain period of time
- A student health matter which does not allow the student to wear the garment/s prescribed
- A religious belief of the student or the student's family
- Any matter which the Principal sees as sufficient to exempt a student in special and unforeseeable circumstances.

Whenever the Principal makes a decision on an application for exemption, those affected are informed in writing of the decision and the reasons for the decision.

The decision to grant an exemption is not taken lightly and will only be granted under extreme circumstances.

It is important for the school community to reinforce pride in the school's identity and the dress requirements for the school.

Finally, the School Board believes that the uniform is not only affordable but the cost is highly competitive, even with normal clothing bought from large discount stores.