

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

NEWTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

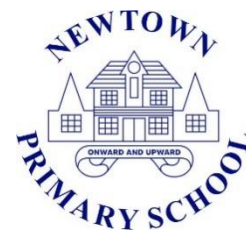
PURPOSE	The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Newtown Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes. This dress code has been developed by Newtown Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our school community and students 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 Example 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.
SCOPE	Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.
UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE	The full list of Newtown Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy. <u>General appearance</u> While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, students must comply with the following: • Uniforms must be clean and in good repair • Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner's name • Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided best efforts are made to keep these undergarments hidden • Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery. No more than 2 earrings in each lobe. • Smart watches may be permitted, with approval by the Principal/leadership, provided they can be set to 'watch only' setting within school hours of 8.50am – 3.30pm. • Make up may not be worn at school • If nail polish is worn, it must be clear or neutral in colour. <u>Health and safety</u> Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

	Jewellery, nails, hair accessories and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted. School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) 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. Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities. Sunglasses should be close-fitting, wrap-around that meet the Australian Standards 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.
PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS	New uniform items can be purchased directly from Beleza School Uniforms (online or in-store 136 Ryrie St, Geelong) 2nd Hand Uniform offering (from Newtown Primary School) The school offers a donation/collection service for pre-worn, in good condition, uniform items. These items are stored in cupboards in the administration area of the school for families to access at any time. A gold coin donation is suggested for items utilised from this 2nd hand uniform supply. The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the Help with school costs and fees page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep or year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund, you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program. Please contact the principal or a member of the administration team to discuss support that we may be able to provide.
IMPLEMENTATION	Newtown Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and further methods as stated below. 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 on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the student and parents by the classroom teacher or school leadership. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal or Assistant 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 acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently. 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 financial 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	Newtown 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 <i>Parent Complaint Policy</i>, available in the policies section of the school's 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 or other school-family communication platforms (i.e. Compass) • Conversations with students and their teacher/s • Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required • Included in transition and enrolment packs • Discussed at parent information nights/sessions • Hard copy available from school administration upon request
FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES	In Nov 2024, school leadership, in consultation with the school council, school community, sample size of students, Beleza School Uniforms and dedicated 'Uniform review working party' undertook a whole school uniform review process. This resulted in the phasing out of a small number of uniform items from 2025 (e.g. Navy hoodie, bomber jacket). Whilst it is encouraged for families to purchase and wear the updated NPS uniform items where possible, an acknowledgment and allowance of a period of transition between the 'old and 'updated' uniform will be permitted.

	Further Resources • Newtown Primary School Sunsmart Policy • Newtown Primary School Parent Complaint Policy • Newtown Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy • Newtown Primary School Mobile Phone and Personal Devices - Student Use Policy • Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code • Department of Education and Training Student Engagement policies and guidelines.
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POLICY LAST REVIEWED	Dec, 2024
CONSULTATION	School Council, sample of students, School Uniform Review working party, school leadership team.
APPROVED BY	School Council
NEXT SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE	Nov, 2027 (to be decided annually by School Council if amendments or a full review of the dress code is required)



APPENDIX A:

NEWTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

(A comprehensive list of school approved uniform items are also available to be viewed via the [Beleza School Uniforms Website](#))

Polo top short or long sleeve	Navy blue with sky blue sleeve, white piping and logo. Available from Beleza School Uniforms. Short and long sleeve options.
Windcheater / Jumper	Rugby style cotton weave with sky blue and white stripes and white collar and logo. OR Fleecy ¼ zip neck jumper with sky blue and white stripes and logo. Both options available from Beleza School Uniforms.
Soft Shell Jacket	Navy blue with sky blue stripe and white piping and logo. Available from Beleza School Uniforms. Other jackets may be worn to and from school, these must be solid navy or black in colour, with modest visual branding.
Pants	Navy cotton drill, poly cotton or fleecy. Without decoration or brand name. Available from Beleza School Uniforms or the school uniform section of retail stores (such as Target, Big-W, Kmart).
Shorts	Navy cotton drill or 'sports' fabric. Without decoration or brand name. Available from Beleza School Uniforms or the school uniform section of retail stores (such as Target, Big-W, Kmart).
Skort	Plain navy skort without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with navy blue tights/stockings. Available from Beleza School Uniforms or the school uniform section of retail stores (such as Target, Big-W, Kmart).
Tunic/Kilt	Available from Beleza School Uniforms (bib detachable) Please note: A solid navy skivvy or long sleeve polo top may be worn under the detachable bid of the kilt.
Dress	Navy/white gingham check with white collar. Available from Beleza School Uniforms or the School Uniform section of retail stores (such as Target Big-W, Kmart)
Sports Uniform	NPS 'house polo sports top' available from Beleza School Uniforms or a solid polo top (in student's designated house colour, blue, red, yellow or green) without decoration or branding. Students are required to wear their house sports tops/polo on designated days (e.g. School Athletics) and on the days they have Physical Education. There are specific uniform requirements for students participating in specialist sports events like lightning premierships, district, zone and state sporting events. These uniforms (usually tops only) are generally provided by the school on loan for the duration of the sporting event. Navy sports shorts or navy pants to be worn with the sports top.

Art Smock	Long sleeve with elastic wrists, to be worn in Art classes to protect clothing as required.
Hat (wide-brimmed)	Navy wide-brimmed hat when outdoors is compulsory from Mid-August - April 30. Where hats have a cord, it must include a safety cord designed to detach if caught.
Socks	To be navy blue, black or white
Tights	Navy blue
Footwear	Appropriate footwear is to be worn at all times. Summer sandals with fully covered toes, black school shoes or pull-on school boots or runners are permitted (white or black preferred, modest branding & colouring). No thongs, slides or open-toed sandals are permitted.
Backpack	Navy with school logo. Available from Beleza School Uniforms. Other navy or dark coloured 'generic' school bags of sturdy construction, with little-no visual branding is acceptable.
Reader bag	Utilised mostly in the Prep and Junior year levels, available from Beleza School Uniforms.