



Nicholson Primary School Student Dress Code

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact [insert school contact details].

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Nicholson 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 Nicholson 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 aims to:

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

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Nicholson Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

- Red polo shirt (long or short sleeve)- white school logo
- Black windcheater/polar windcheater- white school logo
- Black pants (any plain black pants/tracksuit pants/leggings)
- Red or black long-sleeved shirt or skivvy (can be worn under polo shirt)
- Black shorts or skorts
- Red & white checked school dress
- Red broad rimmed hat with white logo consistent with our SunSmart Policy. Caps are not acceptable.
- Red or black beanies may be worn during terms 2 and 3., unless required to wear a broad rimmed hat.
- Year 6 students have the opportunity to order and wear a Year 6 polo shirt ordered via the school.
- Students are not permitted to wear hooded jumpers or jackets to school. Coats/jackets may be worn over a jumper during outside activities. It is preferred that these are red or black in colour
- Footwear: All students are required to wear sensible, sturdy shoes. Footwear that exposes toes, or with open heels are unacceptable at any time. Slip on ballet shoes, or equivalent, are inappropriate and are considered an occupational safety hazard.

General appearance

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 these undergarments are completely hidden
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery

Jewellery and Cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in ears. Watches and Medic Alert Bracelets are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics may not be worn to school. Only clear or neutral tone nail polish is permitted.

Health and safety

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.

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology classes where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

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.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

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

Nicks Clothing Store in Bairnsdale supply clothing with the Nicholson Primary School Logo.

Wide-brimmed hats, school book bags and backpacks with school logo can be purchased from the school.

Parents/carers are able to purchase uniform items from other retailers provided the colours are the school colours.

A limited amount of second-hand uniform items are available at the school.

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 to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Nicholson Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and parent handbook. 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. 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.

Measures taken by Example School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

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

Nicholson 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 *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on the website

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carers/student communication method)
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- 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

Nicholson Primary School Sunsmart Policy

- Nicholson Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Nicholson 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	24/08/2026
Consultation	School Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	24/08/2029

APPENDIX A: NICHOLSON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

All year round

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

Jumper or Vest

Black polar fleece with school logo

Black polar/vest fleece with school logo

Polo shirts

Red long and short sleeved with school logo.

Skorts

Plain black skorts without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with black tights/stockings.

Pants

Plain, black track pants without decoration or brand name

Socks or tights/stockings

Black or white socks

Black tights/stockings

Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Summer sandals with covered toes, black or brown school shoes or pull on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

School Raincoat (Optional Item)

Black coat (school logo optional)

Summer Uniform – to be worn in Terms 1 and 4

Dresses

Summer red and white checked dress

Shorts

Plain black shorts without decoration or brand name

Winter Uniform – to be worn in Term 2 and 3

Skivvies

Plain red or black skivvy

Plain red or black Beanies/Scarves

Hats – to be worn from mid-August to 30 April

Red broadbrim without decoration or brand name.

