

# Tyers Primary School – Dress Code Policy

## Purpose of this policy

A dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instills recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the Dress Code.

Tyers Primary School Dress Code purpose is to:

- promote a sense of identity and pride,
- promote cohesion and good order in our school,
- instil a sense of equality amongst all students,
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing,
- ensure student's appearance reflects the expectations of our school community,
- enhance the profile and identity of Tyers Primary School and its students within the wider community,
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school,
- enhance individual safety and group security,
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities, and
- encourage students to develop a sense of pride in their appearance.

All school councils have the authority to develop and implement dress codes for their students with this authority arising from a Ministerial order under the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*.

## Implementation

The dress code at Tyers Primary School:

- is a written statement of school council expectations regarding student appearance
- applies:
  - during school hours
  - while travelling to and from school
  - when students are engaged in school activities out of school hours
- may:
  - define standards for the general presentation of students
  - set out broad guidelines about student appearance
  - require students to wear a school uniform
  - define specifications for garment design and colour

## Religious and cultural requirements

Tyers Primary school is aware some students may wish to observe particular religious and cultural requirements while also complying with the dress code. These could include:

- head coverings,
- facial hair,
- clothing lengths, and
- adornments such as certain jewelry or makeup.

Tyers Primary school will discuss such requirements with students and parents/guardians to ascertain their cultural and religious significance and how these might be accommodated within the school's dress code policy.

## Exemptions

Exemptions allow the school council to impose uniform standards on all students but still recognise cases in which the application of those standards affects some student unequally.

Exemptions exist when:

- an aspect of the code:
  - Prevents students from being able to attend or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the personal characteristics referred to in Human Rights and Anti-discrimination Requirements.
  - Offends a religious belief held by the student, parent or guardians,
  - Prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background.
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code,
- the students or parents/guardians can demonstrate particular economic hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

Further grounds for exemptions may be allowed at the Principal's discretion

## The exemption process

1. Parents, carers or students approach the principal for an exemption.
2. The principal:
  - considers the grounds for exemption,
  - explains the exemption process to the applicant,
  - guarantees that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential, and
  - encourages the applicant to support their case with evidence.
3. The Principal seeks to negotiate a resolution that:
  - is acceptable to all parties
  - may include:
    - a modification of the dress requirements rather than a complete exemption,
    - granting assistance to allow compliance with the dress code without embarrassment or stigma (for example, when the exemption is sought for economic purposes)
    - conditions under which the exemption is allowed.
4. The Principal:
  - grants an exemption, or
  - provides reasons in writing when an exemption is not granted.
5. The principal keeps a written record of all the decisions made and the reasons provided in case a decision is questioned.

## Jewelry, makeup, hats and hair

- The only headwear that is acceptable is Sunsmart hats consistent with our Sunsmart Policy.
- Hats must be worn outside in Terms 1 and 4. During Term 2 and 3 approved school beanies can be worn. Hats are not to be worn inside.
- Jewelry other than studs or sleepers and watches are not allowed.
- Makeup, including, nail polish, spray on hair colour, temporary tattoos are not allowed unless for a specified activity.
- Students with shoulder length hair or longer (Principal's discretion) are required to have hair tied back at all times at school (refer Tyers Primary School Head Lice Policy).

School Council requires the Principal be responsible for the implementation of the Dress Code in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

Students out of uniform will require a note. The Principal will contact parents of students regularly out of uniform.

### School uniform

The school colours are Green and Gold unless otherwise stated. The school motif is printed on all garments and the uniform is as follows:

- Girls Summer
  - Green/gold paneled Polo Shirt
  - Green/grey shorts or trousers
  - Green windcheater/jacket with Tyers logo
  - Hat green wide brimmed (compulsory for Terms 1 and 4)
  - Green and white check dress
- Boys Summer
  - Green/gold paneled Polo Shirt
  - Grey shorts, green shorts or trousers
  - Green windcheater/jacket with Tyers logo
  - Hat green wide brimmed (compulsory for Terms 1 and 4)
- Girls Winter
  - Green/gold paneled Polo Shirt
  - Grey trousers/green track suit pants
  - Green windcheater/jacket with Tyers logo
  - Green Beanie (optional)
- Boys Winter
  - Green/gold paneled Polo Shirt
  - Grey trousers/Green track suit pants
  - Green windcheater/jacket with Tyers logo
  - Green Beanie (optional)
- Sports Uniform (to be worn on PE and Sports days and other activities as designated by the Principal, such as; District Athletics, Cross country etc.)
  - Green with gold stripes microfiber sports shorts
  - Polo shirt in house colour or school polo short for district events.

Appropriate footwear should be worn at all times (i.e. thongs, open-toed sandals and high heels are not accepted)

Singlet tops/tank tops are not appropriate for school. Children must wear t/shirts or polo shirts.

### Art Smock

An art smock will help protect your child's clothing during creative activities. All children from Prep to Year 6 are required to have a smock/old shirt.

### Lost Property

Any lost property will be displayed in the main corridor and named items handed out. Unclaimed clothing may be donated to the second-hand uniform shop or a charitable organisation.

How to Avoid Lost Property – Identification of Articles

- All articles of clothing, school bags, lunch boxes, drinking flasks, books, pencils etc. should be clearly labeled. Please CHECK these items regularly and assist us to return lost property to its owners.

## Related School Policies

This policy should be read and understood (but not limited to) in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Student Engagement and Inclusion Policy
- Head Lice Policy
- Sunsmart Policy

## Links and references

Department resources:

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

School Policy and Advisory Guide

- [Uniforms](#)
- [Student Dress Code](#)

Related Legislation:

- *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*
- *Education and Training Regulations 2007*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (Vic)*

## Review

The Tyers Primary School School Council and staff will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the Dress Code Policy and revise the policy tri-annually or as required by completing a policy review.

Dress Code Policy updates and requirements will be made available to staff, families and visitors.

This policy was ratified by School Council at the School Council Meeting held 14/06/2016.