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| Policy last reviewed | May 2025 |
| Consultation | School Council |
| Approved by | School Council |
| Next scheduled review date | May 2028 |



**Uniform Policy TAPS**

**Purpose**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Toorloo Arm Primary’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 Toorloo Arm Primary’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 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 traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

**Uniform and appearance**

**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
* Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, plus watches are the only acceptable jewellery.
* Extreme hair colours (e.g.: green, pink or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (e.g.: spikes or mohawks) are not encouraged.
* Shoes are to have closed toes, definitely no thongs
* Other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school.
* The only headwear that is acceptable is SunSmart hats consistent with our SunSmart policy.
* A uniform coordinator will be responsible for ordering purchases through Primary School Wear which ensures items are available for parents to buy. A local business also has permission to use our logo for items purchased locally.
* The student Dress Code, including details of uniform items and places of purchase, will be published in the school information booklet.
* School Council requires the Principal be responsible for implementation of the Dress Code in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.
* Parents seeking exemptions to the Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.
* Changes to the dress code remains at the discretion of school council.

**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.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) to the end of 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.

**Purchase of uniforms**

Uniform items can be purchased from the office at 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](https://www.vic.gov.au/help-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](https://www.vic.gov.au/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**

Toorloo Arm Primary will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, Newsletter and school assemblies. 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.

**Concerns about this student dress code**

Toorloo Arm Primary 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*.

**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
* Discussed in student forums
* Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
* Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
* Hard copy available from school administration upon request

**Further information and resources**

* Toorloo Arm Primary’s SunSmart Policy
* Toorloo Arm Primary’s Parent Complaint Policy
* Toorloo Arm Primary’s Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
* Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy)
* Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-engagement/policy).

**Help for non-English speakers**

If you need help to understand the information in this policy , please contact the school office.