

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Somerville Rise 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 Somerville Rise 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 Somerville Rise Primary 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
- 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**

The full list of Somerville Rise Primary School's compulsory school uniform items is available at Appendix A attached to this policy.

#### **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
- Any make up or nail polish must be natural/neutral tones only
- The clothes worn must not have a commercial label or commercial logo visible on them

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### 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**

Uniform items can be purchased from Beleza Uniform shop in Somerville.

Somerville Rise Primary School also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. If you would like to purchase second hand uniform please contact the office 5977 8500.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the <u>Help with school costs and fees</u> page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting Foundation and is eligible to receive support via the <u>Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund</u>, you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program.

Please contact the Principal or Business Manager to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

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# **Implementation**

Somerville Rise Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Compass communication portal. 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.

## **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.

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### Concerns about this Student Dress Code

Somerville Rise 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 upon request.

### 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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- 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**

- Somerville Rise Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Somerville Rise Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Somerville Rise Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training <u>Student Dress Code</u>
- Department of Education and Training Student Engagement policies and guidelines.

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### APPENDIX A: SOMERVILLE RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

# All year round

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

#### **Rugby Jumper**

- Rugby Jumper with school logo
- Year 6 Rugby jumper also available with school logo

#### Polo shirts

- Sublimated short sleeved polo with school logo
- Year 6 students may wear their specific SRPS Grade 6 school polo shirt

#### **Skorts**

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

#### **Pants**

Plain, navy blue track pants without decoration or brand name

#### Socks or tights/stockings

- Navy blue or white socks
- Navy blue tights/stockings

#### **Footwear**

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

## **School Spray Jacket**

Navy Blue coat with school logo

#### Headwear

- Navy blue, green or white head bands, hair ribbons, "scrunchies" or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs.
- Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

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## **Dresses**

- Summer dress (in school material, available from Beleza)
- Winter tunic (in school material, available from Beleza)

#### **Shorts**

Plain navy blue shorts without decoration or brand name

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

- Navy broadbrim with school logo
- Navy broadbrim hat

# <u>Sports uniform – to be worn for PE and external sporting events</u>

- Navy sports polo top with navy blue shorts/skirt/skort.
- There are specific uniform requirements for students participating in specialist sports such as netball, football and basketball. These uniforms are provided by the school for the duration of the sports season.

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