RATIONALE:
A uniform dress code reinforces in students a sense of pride in their own appearance. Wearing a school uniform instills recognition that each student is an integral part of the school community, and encourages pride in representing our school. Equality, expense and practicality are additional factors that contribute to the need for a whole school uniform.

After consultation with the school community, Education Sub-Committee and school leadership, Blackburn Lake Primary School has developed a uniform policy that:

AIMS:
- Enhances and maintains a positive image of our school throughout the local community
- Promotes equality amongst all students
- Allows all students to identify with our school community and feel a sense of pride in representing Blackburn Lake Primary School
- Provides durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment
- Promotes consistency in the appearance of our students with a uniform that is easily recognisable during whole school and interschool excursions and events

IMPLEMENTATION:
- The uniform policy applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and during school excursions and interschool sporting events
- Summer and winter uniforms, as well as sporting options where necessary, will be prescribed and are expected to be worn – refer to uniform list
- Sport uniform options are to be worn on sporting days only
- Grade 6 students will be permitted to purchase and wear a graduation jumper/jacket throughout their final year
- In accordance with both our uniform policy as well as Sunsmart guidelines, approved hats as provided by the uniform shop must be worn during all outdoor activity between the start of September and end of April – as recommended by SunSmart guidelines: [www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/early-childhood-primary-schools](http://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/early-childhood-primary-schools)
- Footwear should be limited to either lace up runners or black school shoes – open-toe footwear is not permitted
- Plain socks in black or white are preferred
- It is preferred that any additional weather accessories (for example, rain jackets, umbrellas, beanies, scarves) are bottle green or red in accordance with school uniform colours
- Girls are permitted to wear green tights in accordance with school uniform colours. Leggings of any colour are not encouraged.
- Sporting jackets, windcheaters or hooded jumpers from netball, basketball or football clubs in our school community are not a part of our Blackburn Lake Primary School uniform and should not be worn during school hours
- Acceptable jewellery items are limited to watches, plus stud or sleeper earrings (which should be removed during contact sports)
- Girls are encouraged to keep longer hair tied back – hair accessories in uniform colours are preferred
- Extreme hairstyles and brightly coloured hair are not encouraged, with the exception of sporting days and special events only
- Cosmetics are not to be worn at school
- The uniform policy, including details of uniform items, prices and place of purchase, will be published in the school newsletter at the beginning of each year, as well as on our school website
- School council requires the principal to be responsible for the implementation of the uniform policy
- Arrangements can be made to supply uniforms via State Schools Relief for families experiencing economic hardship
- Parents seeking exemptions to the uniform policy due to religious beliefs, cultural background, student disability or health conditions should do so in consultation with the principal

**EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed within three years as part of the School Policy Review Program. The uniform list will be reviewed annually.

*This policy was last ratified by School Council, October 21 2014.*