



# DRESS CODE POLICY

**Blackburn Lake Primary School  
Florence Street Blackburn 3130**

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Blackburn Lake 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 Blackburn Lake 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.

At Blackburn Lake Primary School we believe that a uniform dress code reinforces in our students a sense of pride in their own appearance. Wearing a school uniform instils 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.

The Blackburn Lake Primary School Student Dress Code Policy aims to:

- Foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance.
- Support Blackburn Lake 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.
- Enhance and maintain the positive profile and identity of our school and our students within the wider community.
- Provide 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.

## **UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE**

The full list of Blackburn Lake Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Blackburn Lake Primary School students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good working condition
- Uniforms must 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.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The Blackburn Lake Primary School Student Dress Code Policy applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and during school excursions and interschool sporting events

### **Clothing and Footwear**

Summer and winter uniforms, as well as sporting options where necessary, will be prescribed and are expected to be worn – refer to Appendix A.

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 during their final year of school.

Footwear should be limited to either velcro or lace up runners or black school shoes – open-toe footwear is not permitted.

Predominantly 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.

Students are permitted to wear green tights in accordance with school uniform colours. Leggings of any other 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 (free dress days excepted).

### **Jewellery and cosmetics**

Acceptable jewellery items are limited to watches, plus stud or sleeper earrings (which should be removed during sporting activities).

Cosmetics are not to be worn at school.

### **Hair and Sun Safety**

Shoulder length or longer hair should be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety. 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.

School uniform hats must be worn outside as per the guidelines outlined in the Blackburn Lake Primary School Sunsmart Policy. School uniform hats may also be worn outside of the required time, 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 in person from the school uniform shop during its times of operation, or via the order form available on the school website or at the school office. The school also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Second-hand uniform items can be purchased via the uniform shop during its operating times.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Assistant Principal to discuss support that the school may be able to provide to families in our community experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs. Information about eligibility for uniform support through the State Schools' Relief can be supplied to community members by the Assistant Principal. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Blackburn Lake Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code Policy is communicated to all families and students in our community through our school website and newsletter. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school or remove the non-compliant item if appropriate.

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 Principal. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, 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 Blackburn Lake Primary 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 recognise that there may be situations where the application of this dress code may affect students unequally.

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 economic 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 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**

Blackburn Lake Primary School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Student Dress Code Policy. 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 school website or at the school office.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Sunsmart Policy
- Parent Complaint Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

### **EVALUATION**

This Student Dress Code Policy was last approved by School Council on 18th August, 2020 and is scheduled for review in August, 2024.

**PRINCIPAL:** Loisia Steed    **SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT:** Jennee Chan

## **APPENDIX A: BLACKBURN LAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS**

### **All year round**

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

<b><u>Polos</u></b>	Red Polo Shirt – short sleeve Red Polo Shirt – long sleeve Grade 6 Polo Shirt – short sleeve
<b><u>Jackets</u></b>	Red Bomber Jacket Red Polar Fleece Jacket
<b><u>Pants</u></b>	Bottle Green Track Pants Bottle Green Boot Leg Pants Bottle Green Girls Leisure (Straight) Pants Bottle Green Gaberdine/Drill Pants
<b><u>Shorts</u></b>	Bottle Green Cullottes/Pleated Skort Bottle Green Gaberdine/Drill Shorts Bottle Green Sports Shorts
<b><u>Dresses</u></b>	Summer Tartan Print Dress Winter Tartan Tunic (sold bundled with Tights & L/S Polo) Bottle Green Bike Shorts ( <i>for under dress</i> ) Bottle Green Winter Skirt Bottle Green Tights
<b><u>Hats</u></b>	Bottle Green Bucket Hat Bottle Green Wide Brim Hat
<b><u>Other</u></b>	Bottle Green School Bag Book Bag ( <i>provided in Prep</i> )