# Doncaster Gardens Primary School Student Dress Code Policy

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Doncaster Gardens Primary School 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 Doncaster Gardens 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 Doncaster Gardens 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 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

The full list of Doncaster Gardens Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available per Appendix A to this policy.

### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Doncaster Gardens Primary School 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.

# **Jewellery and cosmetics**

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

First Ratified: Unknown Reviewed: March 2025

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

## **Health and Safety**

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

School uniform hats must be worn outside from the third week of August 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 ordered or purchased directly from PSW:

12 Strathalbyn St, Kew East VIC 3102

Phone: (03) 9768 0381

Doncaster Gardens Primary School Parents' Club also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Opening dates and times are communicated in Newsfeeds via Compass.

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 prep or year 7 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 to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

Doncaster Gardens Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website. 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.

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.

First Ratified: Unknown Reviewed: March 2025

Measures taken by Doncaster Gardens 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 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 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 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.

## **CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE**

Doncaster Gardens 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 on our website or by request to the principal.

### COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information sessions.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Doncaster Gardens Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Doncaster Gardens Primary School Parent Complaint Policy

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- Doncaster Gardens Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code
- Department of Education and Training <u>Student Engagement policies and guidelines</u>.

# **POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Policy last reviewed	March 2025
Consultation	Education Sub-committee March 11 2025
	School Council March 25 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2028

First Ratified: Unknown Reviewed: March 2025

# APPENDIX A: DONCASTER GARDENS PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS



First Ratified: Unknown Reviewed: March 2025