



# UNIFORM

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## RATIONALE

A uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are also factors that contribute to the establishment of the Uniform/ Dress Code, for Moolap Primary School.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- To promote equality amongst all students.
- To further develop a sense of pride in, and identification with our school.
- To provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment.
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community.
- According to section 16(1)(c) of the Education and Training Regulations 2007, the principal of a government school may determine the consequences to be imposed on a student for breaching the school dress code set by the school council.
- The consequences must be reasonable and the principal must be satisfied that the breach was a result of the student's unwillingness to comply with the dress code and that the dress code policy has been brought to the attention of the student and parents or carers.
- Section 40 of the Equal Opportunity Act 1995 states that an educational authority may set and enforce reasonable standards of dress and appearance for students.
- Under Victorian legislation, schools have the right to set and enforce reasonable standards of dress and appearance for students. A standard is considered reasonable if the school has taken into account the views of the school community in setting it. The more extensive, engaging and collaborative the consultation process, the more likely it is to be considered reasonable.

## IMPLEMENTATION

- After consultation with the school community the School Council has developed a Dress Code that we believe provides choice for the students, allows for students to safely engage in the many varied school activities, and caters for the financial constraints of families.
- The Dress Code applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when students are on school excursions.
- Summer and winter uniforms, as well as a sports uniform will be prescribed, and are required to be worn.
- Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, plus watches are acceptable jewellery.
- Extreme hair colours (e.g. green, pink or purple rinses) and/or extreme hairstyles (e.g. spikes or mo-hawks) are not encouraged.
- Other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school.
- Suitable, safe footwear to be worn, e.g. school shoes, closed- toe sandal, joggers. Thongs and open- toed sandals are not acceptable, unless being worn to and from swimming classes. Shoes with buckles or Velcro should be considered for younger children if they are unable to tie laces.

- The only head wear that is acceptable is Sunsmart hats consistent with our Sunsmart policy. Hats are not to be worn inside.
- The Moolap Community Group may wish to operate a second hand uniform sale for parents.
- The student Dress Code, including details of uniform items and places of purchase, will be published in the newsletter at the start of each year.
- School Council requires the Principal and staff are 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.
- A school's dress code must address issues of sun protection. In particular, schools should encourage students to wear a sun protective hat outside from September to April. Schools with a uniform must ensure a sun protective hat is included, at least as an option, as part of the uniform.
- Hat cords, chinstraps and drawstrings on clothing, or jewellery worn by students, may present risks of strangulation or other injury.
- Schools should consider selecting hats without cords or chinstraps, or with safety cords that are designed to release if caught.
- The school shall notify parents when there are concerns related to a student's dress code.

## **STUDENT UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS**

### **Girls**

- Black and white check Moolap Primary School dress
- Black and white check Moolap Primary School skorts
- Black Moolap Primary School windcheater (with school logo) or plain black or gold windcheater
- Black skirt (plain)
- Moolap Primary School kilt
- Black tracksuit pants (plain)
- Plain black leggings to be worn underneath school kilts, dresses and skorts
- Black or yellow skivvy (plain)
- Moolap Primary School yellow or black polo shirt (with school logo, long or short sleeve)
- Plain black or gold polo (long or short sleeve)
- Sunsmart hat in line with Sunsmart Policy, black or gold broad (brimmed hats – with a brim of at least 7.5 cm)
- Black school shoes, closed toe sandals or joggers
- Moolap Bomber Jacket or plain black bomber jacket (no logo or branded clothing).

## Boys

- Black school shorts (plain)
- Black school trousers
- Black Moolap Primary School windcheater (with school logo) or plain black or gold windcheater
- Moolap Primary School yellow or black polo shirts (with school logo, long or short sleeve)
- Black tracksuit pants (plain)
- Black or yellow skivvy (plain)
- Plain black or gold polo (long or short sleeve)
- Sunsmart hat in line with Sunsmart Policy, black or gold broad (brimmed hats – with a brim of at least 7.5 cm)
- Black school shoes, closed toe sandals or joggers
- Moolap Bomber Jacket or plain black bomber jacket (no logo or branded clothing).

From experience we have found certain clothing to be dangerous, or inhibit the children in participating in certain areas of the curriculum. Therefore children are not permitted to wear:

- Thongs
- Shoes with raised or block heels
- Earrings other than simple studs or sleepers
- If gumboots are worn in winter please send a change of shoes for indoor use
- Singlet / tank tops
- Suggestive slogans on clothing are strictly banned.

## EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.