

Uniform & Student Dress Code Policy - December 2020

Purpose

The purpose of the Uniform & Student Dress Code Policy is to outline Lalor East 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 policy has been developed by the School Council at Lalor East Primary School 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.

School uniform gives students a sense of belonging and identifies a group of children within a school. Wearing a school uniform instils pride in the school, assists supervision and safety on external school activities such as excursions, and unifies students from various social backgrounds into a cohesive school unit.

Guidelines

Uniform Expectation

- School uniform is compulsory for all students at Lalor East Primary School.
- Students are expected to comply with the Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities, unless otherwise communicated.
- The school uniform consists of the following items:
 - Lalor East PS Bomber Jacket
 - Lalor East PS Polo Shirt
 - Black tracksuit pants
 - Black shorts
 - Black & White Checked School Dress
- Black pants must be plain and free from logos and branding.
- Extra clothing such as beanies, scarves or gloves are to be black
- Any headscarves/hijabs or turbans are to be plain black
- Black long sleeve tops can be worn underneath the school polo
- Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits, lice and for student safety. Colours for hair accessories are to be black or teal. 'Excessive' hair accessories (eg: large bows) are not permitted.
- Jackets, coats and vests will be black
- A special Year 6 commemorative bomber jacket and polo shirt will be available for purchase for only Grade 6 students every year
- Students participating in interschool sport and excursions, or representing the school at outside activities, will wear the appropriate school uniform.

Footwear

- Students must wear closed toed shoes, such as runners or school shoes
- We encourage students to wear runners for Physical Education sessions. Football and soccer boots can only be worn at Interschool sports events
- Thongs and open toed footwear are not to be worn. Ballet flats are not suitable for school wear, as they do not adequately protect the children's feet

Hats

- From 1 September to 30 April, a wide brimmed school hat is a compulsory part of the school uniform when students are outside for recess, lunch, sport sessions and other outdoor activities. This is in line with our Sun Smart Policy
- Damaged hats are not acceptable. This includes binding being pulled from the brim of the hat as well as unacceptable writing. Parents will be asked to replace damaged hats
- Hats can be purchased at Lowes Plenty Valley or at the office.

Personal Appearance

- The application of cosmetics\make up and extreme hair colours such as green, red, purple, etc. is not acceptable, except on special dress up days or at School House Sports Day.
- The wearing of small studs or sleepers and/or a wrist watch are the only acceptable jewellery items. Students will be asked to remove other items of jewellery.
- Other body piercings, including nose studs, are not allowed.

Parents Responsibilities

- The wearing of our school uniform is compulsory for all students except where an exemption is given by the Principal/School Council
- The following grounds for exemption apply:
 - Religious beliefs
 - Cultural background
 - Students with a health condition
 - *Please note:* An exemption will not be granted on philosophical grounds
- As with all other areas of financial difficulty, parents will be encouraged to make arrangements with the Principal regarding provision of uniform items for their children. Families who may have difficulty meeting the cost of uniform requirements may be referred to the State Schools' Relief program.
- All items of the school uniform should be clearly marked with the child's name. Students are responsible for their own items of clothing
- The uniform should be in good condition, durable, safe, comfortable and not hinder or restrict children's participation in physical education. It is the parents'/carers' responsibility to ensure children wear our school uniform and that the uniform is in good condition
- A note from parents will be required when children are out of uniform. For children without a note from parents the following steps apply:
 - Restriction of play within Area 2 (internal courtyard between Octane and Azure Buildings)
 - If the student continues to be out of uniform, a note will be sent home to parents.
- Staff need to document students out of uniform by using the appropriate Compass chronicle template. A Uniform Pass can then be printed and signed for students (similar to a first bay notice)

Lost Property

- Any misplaced items of clothing with no names will be stored in the sick bay.

Implementation

- There will be a transition period to the new uniform where students will continue to wear our bottle green uniform. Any new students will purchase our new uniform.
- The responsibility for the implementation of the school uniform dress codes rests with the Principal. It is the Principal who deals with exemption requests in light of stated criteria. It is the Principal who reports to School Council on applications and the decisions made with respect to each application
- School council may determine ways in which the student dress code may be enforced, provided the methods of enforcement are lawful and consistent with the Department's Student Engagement Policy and the school's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy. There are no grounds for suspension under *Ministerial Order 1125 (Suspension and Expulsion)* for being out of uniform).
- Our school uniform items are available for purchase from Lowes Plenty Valley in Mill Park.
- Information about school uniform will be communicated to families upon enrolment.

Evaluation

This is a local school policy. It will be reviewed every four years as part of the school policy review cycle, following changes to Departmental legislation and guidelines or at times that the Principal forms the opinion that the policy warrants a review.

Approved by School Council:

8 December 2020

Review Date:

December 2024

Appendix 1 - School Uniform Images

