



## Student Dress Code

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mount Dandenong 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 Mount Dandenong Primary School's School Council in consultation with the school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students whilst reflecting the values and interests of our community. The dress code aims to renew our focus on the presentation of our students and our school, following a disrupted and difficult year in 2020. In acknowledgment of this, there will be some transitional arrangements for 2021 in order to ensure that sufficient time is afforded to everyone in the community to meet the new expectations.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging;
- encourage students to present themselves neatly and tidily for school;
- support Mount Dandenong Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities;
- Provide a means of easily recognising students when attending school excursions or events;
- reduce student competition on the basis of clothing;
- support informal or incidental physical activity such as lunchtime sport, walking or cycling to school;
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community; and
- provide guidance and assistance to parents in relation to school clothing.

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students and is cost effective for families.

### SCOPE

The wearing of approved school uniform is compulsory at Mount Dandenong Primary School. 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 Mount Dandenong Primary School's compulsory school uniform items is available at Appendix A to this policy.

The Mount Dandenong School uniform aims to provide students with practical, comfortable clothing options. While some items are traditionally gendered, such as the dress, students

# MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



may choose to wear any item they please. Each student, regardless their gender, has a right to dress according to their identity and preferences.

## **General appearance**

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

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair;
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name;
- Some generic items are acceptable (pants, shorts, skirts) provided the garments are the same style as the approved uniform items and are without decoration or brand name;
- Black bike shorts, tights or leggings are for wear under summer dresses or winter tunics rather than on their own; and
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

## **Appropriate Footwear**

Appropriate footwear is another essential part of the School Uniform Policy. For safety reasons students are to wear appropriate footwear to suit their activity at school. The school strongly recommends the purchase of a leather runner shoe in black. These provide support, facilitate active play and participation in physical activity, match our uniform and work well for our environment.

- Students are required to wear suitable closed toe protective footwear; black, navy and brown are the acceptable colours.
- Minimal trim is allowable.
- For sport activities, runners are required.
- High heeled shoes, fashion boots, sandals, thongs, crocs, canvas shoes, wheelies and open toe shoes are not considered appropriate footwear for safety reasons. They do not offer proper support for the sole or top of the foot.

## **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.

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

## **Hair and Sun 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 mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) 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.

# MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



Hats and beanies 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 from the Mount Dandenong Primary School uniform shop at school. The uniform shop is run by parent volunteers and is open on Thursday mornings from 8:45 to 9:15. Second-hand uniform items are also available for sale in the uniform shop. Order forms, available through the school website or from the school, may be completed and left at the office during the week with full payment. Items ordered will be delivered to the classroom. Special times will be available to all new Foundation students to purchase uniforms prior to the start of the school year.

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

Please contact the Principal to discuss support that we may be able to provide to families experiencing difficulty meeting uniform costs, including information about eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/> Mount Dandenong Primary School also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

## IMPLEMENTATION

Mount Dandenong Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students before enrolment, through our website and via newsletter updates. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

In acknowledgment of changed expectations as a result of this dress code, a transitional period will be in place to ensure that families have ample time to make use of current items and to purchase any new items required. The transition period will be as follows:

### TRANSITION PERIODS

Summer Dress	Any green checked dress is permitted until the end of Term 2, 2021.	From Term 3, 2021, only school pattern check permitted.
Winter Tunic	Any green or green tartan tunic is permitted until the end of Term 2, 2021	From Term 3, 2021, only school pattern tunic is permitted.
Leggings	May be worn alone throughout 2021 so long as they are in good repair and of appropriate thickness.	To be reviewed in 2021 for 2022.

## MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



Unbadged Polo T-shirts	Bottle green polo t-shirts without the school logo may be worn until the end of Term 2, 2021.	From Term 3, 2021, only bottle green polo t-shirts with logo.
Shoes	Any colour runner or ankle boot is permitted until the end of 2021, with an expectation that the next time shoes are purchased they will be in accordance with the dress code expectation.	From 2022, only black, navy or brown enclosed toe shoes permitted (runners, boots or school shoes).

Mount Dandenong Primary School students who are not dressed in the appropriate school uniform, will first be given a warning. 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 via Compass. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and a phone call home will be made. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

School staff will provide positive reinforcement to students for wearing correct designated school clothing as appropriate.

Measures taken by Mount Dandenong 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.

Out of Uniform days will be determined from time to time in an effort to raise money for Social Services and to provide opportunities for free dress. Guidelines for such days will be published, however for safety, and in regard to our Sunsmart Policy, brief clothing cannot be worn (singlets etc.)

A special bomber jacket and/or polo t-shirt for the Grade 6 students will be available for purchase each year.

### 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;

# MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code; or
- 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; and
- 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

Mount Dandenong 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 [http://www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au/?page\\_id=73](http://www.mtdandps.vic.edu.au/?page_id=73).

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Mount Dandenong Primary School's Sunsmart Policy
- Mount Dandenong Primary School's Parent Complaint Policy
- Mount Dandenong Primary School's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

## REVIEW CYCLE

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2020. The School Council will monitor the implementation of the dress code in 2021 and will seek feedback before reviewing the policy towards the end of 2021.

# MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



## APPENDIX A: MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

*School uniform is comprised of the following items listed below. The school colours are bottle green, gold and black and parents may select new or pre-loved uniforms from the school uniform shop.*

<b>Tops</b>	<b>Availability</b>
Green with gold short sleeved polo with logo	School uniform shop only
Green with gold long sleeved polo with logo	School uniform shop only
Black skivvy (for under tunic only)	Retail outlets
<b>Jumpers / Jackets</b>	
Green polar fleece jacket with school logo	School uniform shop only
Green bomber jacket with gold striped collar and cuffs with school logo	School uniform shop only
Green windcheater with school logo	School uniform shop only
<b>Pants / Shorts / Skorts</b>	
Black skorts	School uniform shop and retailers
Black shorts	School uniform shop and retailers
Black pants, tracksuit pants, leisure pants	School uniform shop and retailers
<b>Dresses</b>	
Checked Summer Dress in school pattern	School uniform shop only
Winter Green, Gold and Black Tartan Tunic with button-off bib (can be worn as skirt)	School uniform shop only
<b>Hats</b>	
Green slouch hat	School uniform shop only
Green bucket hat	School uniform shop only
<b>Sport</b>	
School polo, shorts or skorts with runners. Sports top provided by school for specific events.	
<b>Socks / Tights / Bike shorts</b>	
White or black ankle length socks	Retailers
Black tights	Retailers
Black leggings (if desired for under skorts, shorts or dresses)	Retailers
Bike shorts for under dresses	Retailers
<b>School Bag</b>	
Bottle school backpack with logo preferred	School uniform shop
<b>Hair / Cosmetics</b>	
Hair accessories in bottle green, yellow or black (elastics in black or brown may be worn), or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs	Retailers
<b>Other Items</b>	
Bottle green beanie	School Uniform Shop or other retailers
Bottle green scarf	School Uniform Shop or other retailers
Raincoats, parkas, beanies and scarves in non-school colours may be worn to school and during outside break times, but are not permitted to be worn during classes.	Retailers
<b>Shoes</b>	
Enclosed shoes - sneakers, school shoes or ankle boots - in black (preferred), brown or navy only. Students may bring gum boots for wear outside on wet days. Students may bring slippers for use in the classroom as shoes are not worn inside.	Retailers

# MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Bomber Jacket**



**Polar Fleece Jacket**



**Windcheater**



**Slouch Hat  
(Bucket hat  
also available)**



**Short-sleeve  
polo**



**Long-sleeve  
Polo**



**Tracksuit Pants**



**Leisure Pants**



**Summer Dress**



**Winter Tunic**



**Skort**



**Shorts**