



Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Altona Meadows 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 Altona Meadows Primary School's School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure 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 Altona Meadows 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

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

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

Uniform and Appearance

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

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Altona Meadows 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
- 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.

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 for student safety.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from as per our Sunsmart Policy. School uniform hats may also be worn outside these times, 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 online through State School's Relief or by visiting the store. Please obtain a flyer from our office on purchasing uniform.

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 School's Relief. Further information about State School's Relief is also available in their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

Implementation

Altona Meadows Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and information in our main office. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of uniform or otherwise breached 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.

Measures taken by Altona Meadows 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 in writing 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

Altona Meadows 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 from the office.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

August 2021

