

GREATER SHEPPARTON SECONDARY COLLEGE

STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY

Review Cycle:	Annually *	Last Review Date:	11.06.2025
Next Review Date:	June 2026	Approved by:	School Council
Responsible for Review:	Executive Principal	Initial Endorsement Date:	October 2019

*The Department's Student Dress Code policy on Developing and Reviewing Dress Codes requires school councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Greater Shepparton Secondary College requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code was originally developed and endorsed by the four (4) secondary School Councils in Shepparton and Mooroopna 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:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

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 traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Greater Shepparton Secondary College compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Greater Shepparton Secondary College 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.
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
- Any make up or nail polish must be neutral tones only

Sun safety

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a school hat during outdoor activities in term 1, term 4 and on high UV days or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing sunscreen.

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.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories, hat cords and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology classes where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

While the Uniform item list specifies items for summer and winter uniform, students are able to wear summer and winter uniform items all year-round.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the local uniform shop providers. Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

Greater Shepparton Secondary College offers second hand uniform items directly from the college, for further information contact the school on 03 5891 2000.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal, or Wellbeing Leader 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/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Greater Shepparton Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website, Newsletter and Compass. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a text message will be sent home at the end of each day on non-compliance with the uniform policy. 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 Greater Shepparton Secondary College 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 either in writing to the Principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate financial 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
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. 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

Greater Shepparton Secondary College 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*.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Greater Shepparton College's Sunsmart Policy
- Greater Shepparton College's Complaint Policy
- Greater Shepparton College's Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

COMMUNICATION

- available publicly on our school's website
- included in transition and enrolment packs

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- parent/carers
- teachers and other school staff
- students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

CONSULTATION

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- letters, emails and social media messages to parents/carers
- surveys
- information in newsletters
- public meetings
- student meetings
- focus groups
- information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

APPENDICES

Appendix A:

Greater Shepparton College Student Uniform list

For information on the Dress Code Policy please refer to the school website www.greatersheppartoncollege.vic.edu.au

Compulsory School Uniform

Polo Top	College sublimated PE polo
Shirt	College short sleeved shirt College long sleeved shirt Two styles available; box and fitted. Two colours available; teal and white
Shorts, or	Plain Charcoal shorts without decoration or retail brand name *
Track Shorts	Two styles available
Dress	Plain Charcoal shorts without decoration or retail brand name *
Pants, or	College A-line summer dress with pleat and adjustable band
Track Pants	Plain Charcoal pants without decoration or retail brand name *
Jumper	Two styles available
Jacket	Plain Charcoal track pants without decoration or retail brand name *
Hat	Two options: V neck knit jumper and crew neck brushed fleece jumper. Charcoal with white and teal stripes in neck, cuff and hem
Shoes	College soft shell, shower proof, polar fleece lined
Optional	College charcoal microfiber brimmed/bucket hat
	Enclosed shoes
	<i>*Must comply with Australian Safety Standards for various subjects.</i>
	Students may wear a plain white, grey or black long-sleeved top under the existing uniform items

Accessories

Socks	Black or White
Stockings	Black
Scarf	Charcoal "cashmere feel" acrylic scarf with embroidered logo
Beanie	Black with embroidered logo.

Optional Items

Tie	College tie
Turban	Three choices for students to select from: Black, Charcoal or White To be supplied by parent
Kilt	College charcoal pleated knee length skirt with teal and white check print
College Hijab	Three choices for students to select from: Black, Charcoal or White Available for students to purchase from retailers
Blazer	College Blazer
Skirt	Plain charcoal long A line skirt (option for students with cultural restrictions) <i>*Black stockings/leggings can be worn under skirt or school dress for students with cultural restrictions</i>

Year 12

Year 12 students must wear full regulation school uniform items with the addition of the optional commemorative items

Uniform Suppliers

The School 183 Corio Street, Shepparton VIC 3630

Uniform Shop

Quality Teams 27 Benalla Road, Shepparton VIC 3630

Noone Imagewear Shop 2B, 210-216 Corio Street, Shepparton VIC 3630

* Items without the school branding can also be purchased from other retailers.

