



Northcote Primary School Student Dress Code

Help for non-English speakers



If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Principal on (03) 9481 0009

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Northcote 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 Northcote Primary School's School Council 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.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging, and encourage students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Northcote Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.
- provide families with an alternative option

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with the Student Dress Code at all times, including while traveling to and from school, during school hours, and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Northcote Primary School has an optional school uniform. The full list of Northcote PS's optional school uniform items is available from the uniform supplier, Noone, via the [school website](#).

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Northcote PS students must comply with the following:

- Clothing must be appropriate for learning and playing.
- Shoes must be fully enclosed, covering the toes appropriate footwear such as school shoes or runners.
- School clothing personal and should be clearly marked with the owner's name.
- Bottom clothing items must be of appropriate length (no shorter than just above the knee)
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth

Non-acceptable items:

- Crocs, thongs, beach sandals, scuffs, high heels, or flimsy sandals should not be worn to school.
- Students are not permitted to wear clothing that exposes specific parts of the body, including shoulders and stomachs, or very short dresses, short shorts, or singlet tops, as examples. Clothing should meet our sun-smart policy.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students can wear jewellery that sits flush on the skin. For example: Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches on the wrist. Cosmetics are not permitted to be worn at school.

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

Health and safety

Shoulder-length or longer hair is recommended to be tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Sun protective hats must be worn outside from September 1st to April 30th and on any other day prescribed by the school. Sun protective hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parents' or student's choice.

Hats, hoodies, 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

Northcote Primary School's optional uniform items can be purchased directly from the uniform supplier Noone via the [school website](#) or directly from Noone.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep or year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program.

Please contact the principal to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

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

If a student breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a note will be provided to the 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.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE -

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently.

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
- 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 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
- 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

Northcote 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 at the front office or via our website.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Northcote Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Northcote Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Northcote Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	December 2026
Consultation	NPS Staff - May 2025 School Council - December 2026
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	June 2028

APPENDIX A: NORTHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS

All year round

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

Jumper or Vest

Optional - Navy Northcote PS zip top with school logo

Polo shirts

Optional - Northcote PS polo with school logo.

Shorts

Optional - Plain navy blue shorts

Skorts

Optional - Plain navy skorts without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with navy blue tights/stockings.

Pants

Optional - Plain, navy blue track pants without decoration or brand name

Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. Summer sandals with covered toes or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

Summer Uniform – to be worn in Terms 1 and 4

Dresses

Optional Summer checked dress

Shorts

Optional - Plain navy blue shorts

Hats – to be worn from 1st September to 30 April

NPS Bucket Hat

Broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat

