



# Mernda Primary School 0488

## Uniform Policy

### **Rationale:**

- Our uniform dress code reinforces in students a pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing their school. Issues of equality, health and safety, and expense are also factors that contributed to the establishment of the Dress Code.

### **Aims:**

- To promote equality amongst all students.
- To further develop a sense of pride in, and identification with Mernda Primary School.
- To provide durable clothing that is cost effective and practical for our school environment.
- To maintain and enhance the positive image of the school in the community.

### **Implementation:**

- After consultation with the school community, School Council has developed a Dress Code that we believe provides choice for the students, allows for students to safely engage in the many varied school activities, and caters for the financial constraints of families.
- It is compulsory to wear the Mernda Primary School uniform; this can only be purchased at LOWES department store which is located in South Morang or on their website which is located on the Mernda school app.
- All students and parents are informed of the school's uniform policy on enrolment
- The student Dress Code, including details of uniform items and place of purchase, will be published in the newsletter at the start of each year.
- It is the responsibility of every parent/guardian to check that their child is wearing correct uniform to school every day.
- If a student arrives at school with incorrect uniform if possible she/he will be asked to remove the incorrect item/ make up/ jewellery/ nail polish. Where an item cannot be easily removed or is necessary for comfort/safety (i.e. shoes): The student will be informed that the uniform is incorrect and asked not to wear the item again.
- A letter will be sent home to the parent / guardian indicating the breach of uniform policy if the issue continues.
- If after a letter is sent and the issue continues, the parent / guardian will be contacted by telephone or asked to attend a meeting at the school.
- There is regular reinforcement of the uniform policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings and school activities.
- Students are regularly reminded of the policy.
- The Dress Code applies during school hours (including Before & After School Care), while travelling to and from school, and when students are on school excursions.
- All children representing our school for any event may only do so when wearing full school uniform.
- Summer and winter uniforms, as well as a sports uniform are available, and are required to be worn.
- The Mernda Primary School sports uniform will be compulsory for all students when representing Mernda Primary School at any internal or external sporting event. Non-compliance will result in non-participation.
- The sports uniform is available for grade three to six students only. It may not be worn as part of the normal school uniform on any day except for the duration of day of the week

the child has their Physical Education lesson. (Please note wearing the sports uniform on PE days is optional.)

- During winter or colder months maroon tights are permissible. Leggings are not permitted.
- In the interest of safety, plain gold or silver stud earrings and sleepers (with or without a small stone), as well as watches are the only acceptable jewellery. No loose neck chains are permitted.
- Footwear; closed in shoes must be worn, sports runners or black school shoes may only be worn, (Skate shoes, Sand shoes eg; Dunlop Volleys or Vans are not acceptable footwear). (Classification of runners is available at the administration office if required).
- School socks are available for purchase at LOWES. White/black socks are deemed appropriate/suitable
- For safety and health reasons children with shoulder length or longer hair, need to have their hair tied back while at school.
- Hair colours such as green, pink, purple etc and/or extreme hairstyles such as mohawks are not permitted. Naturally occurring hair colours such as blonde, auburn, brunette and black are acceptable.
- Accessories; Scarves, Beanies and Hair Ornaments such as head bands; ribbons etc must be gold or maroon.
- Other than clear nail polish, cosmetics may not be worn at school.
- SUNSMART; Children must wear either bucket or wide brimmed maroon Mernda Primary logo school hat during school hours from September 1<sup>st</sup> until April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- School Council requires that the Principal be responsible for implementation of the Dress Code in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.
- Parents seeking exemptions to the Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.
- The Principal may assist students in financial need to acquire uniform items.
- A grade 6 'Legends' jacket (in school colours) will be offered to the year six students. They will be available in term one.
- An alternate gold polo shirt with maroon printing will also be available to year six students at the beginning of each year.
- School processes and procedures will be followed if uniform policy breaches occur. E.g. Parent notified.

### **Evaluation:**

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

<i>This policy was ratified by school council on: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015</i>
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