

Student Dress Code (uniform) Policy

This policy has been developed and reviewed in accordance with the Department's Student Dress Code policy guidance on the Department's Policy and Advisory Library, available at the following link:
<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy>



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the principal at Zeerust Primary School.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Zeerust 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 Zeerust 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 encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- Support Zeerust 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 traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Zeerust Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

- Short sleeve red polo shirt with black edging to collar and sleeves, black panel under the arms and school logo embroidered on front. Plain black long-sleeved shirts may be worn underneath.
- Plain red long sleeved polar fleece with full or half zip with school logo embroidered on front
- Plain red bucket hat with school logo embroidered on front to be worn between August and April as part of the school SunSmart policy.
- Plain black pants (including tracksuit pants), black shorts, black skirt or black skort. Plain black tights or leggings may be worn under a skirt, skort or shorts. No item of clothing is to have visible logos or images.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Zeerust 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, as outlined in the compulsory uniform section.

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 1st August 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.

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 from the school. Uniform order form is available at school. All uniform must be paid for prior to receiving items.

Parents and carers are asked to please return uniform that is too small or no longer required so these items can be given to students who request 2nd hand 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 Schools' Relief. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website:

<https://www.ssr.net.au/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Zeerust Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Zeerust Facebook Pages: Zeerust Primary School, Australia and Zeerust Primary School Families (Australia). We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school or asked to take the non-compliant item off.

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 Principal. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, 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 Zeerust 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 either 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 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

Zeerust 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*.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website and school Facebook page
- Available on our school's private Facebook page
- Discussed in student forums
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Zeerust Primary School SunSmart Policy
- Zeerust Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Zeerust Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2024
Consultation	Families, school council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	June 2028 The Department's Student Dress Code policy requires School Councils to decide annually whether amendments or a full review of the dress code are required



ZEERUST PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

All year round

Zeerust Primary School uniform may be worn all year round:

Jumper (compulsory)

Plain red long sleeved collared polar fleece jumper with full or half zip with school logo embroidered on front

Polo shirts (compulsory)

Short sleeve red polo shirt with black edging to collar and sleeves, black panel under the arms and school logo embroidered on front. Plain black long-sleeved t-shirt may be worn underneath.

Pants, Shorts, Skirt or Skorts (compulsory)

Plain black pants (including tracksuit pants), black shorts, black skirt or black skort. Plain black tights or leggings may be worn under a skirt, skort or shorts. No item of clothing is to have visible logos or images.

Footwear (compulsory)

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. School shoes, pull on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed shoes are permitted.

Hats – to be worn from 1st August to 30th April (compulsory)

Plain red bucket hat with embroidered school logo on front.

Headwear

Black, red or white plain head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

The following items are optional.

Please contact the school as to exact requirements and where to purchase.

Vest (Optional Item)

Red polar fleece with full zip, embroidered with school logo on front

Softshell jacket (optional item)

Red softshell with full zip and concealed hood, embroidered with school logo on front

Beanie (optional item)

Plain red polar fleece with school logo on front

Scarf (optional item)

Plain black scarf, knitted or polar fleece with no decoration or brand name

Polo Shirt long-sleeved (optional item)

Plain red long-sleeved polo shirt with embroidered school logo on front