Fitzroy North Primary School

Student Dress Code Policy

HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Fitzroy North Primary School on 03 9481 5860 or fitzroy.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to encourage students to be suitably attired for school activities and to enable students to develop a positive self-image.

2. POLICY

This dress code has been developed by Fitzroy North Primary School's School Council in 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 positive role of clothing is recognised in promoting a sense of individuality and, when required, a sense of collective identity and pride.

Within this, consideration is given to:

- Health and safety requirements
- Freedom of expression
- Respecting cultural diversity
- Financial constraints

Uniform

Students at Fitzroy North Primary School are not required to wear a school uniform. Fitzroy North Primary School encourages families to choose what their children will wear to school, within the bounds of personal and physical safety and sets out certain standards of dress for the school community.

An optional school polo shirt is available to be purchased at the school office. In addition, Prep t-shirts and Grade 6 jackets are also available to families.

Strategies

- Footwear should provide adequate protection for children's feet. High heels and flip-flops (thongs) are unsafe and are not permitted.
- For protection against head lice, it is recommended that long hair is tied back.
- To support and promote personal safety and the school's Equal Opportunity Policy, it is not acceptable to wear clothing that carries crude, violent, racist or sexist messages.
- Students will be encouraged to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for outdoor activities. Classroom teachers will communicate with families when students have Physical Education and sport sessions, to ensure students are wearing appropriate shoes.
- All clothing should be labelled and students are expected to be responsible for their clothing.
- These strategies will be implemented by school staff at their discretion with the focus on ensuring the wellbeing of all children and families.

Sun Safety

As per our Sun Protection Policy, Fitzroy North Primary School recommends that from mid-August to end of April (based on when UV levels are most likely to be 3 and above) students come to school wearing sun-protective clothing such as:

- loose, cool, closely woven fabric
- shirts with a collar and/or high necklines
- tops with elbow length or long sleeves
- longer style shorts and skirts
- rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming activities.

Tops that do not adequately cover the shoulders, such as shoe-string strapped tops and singlet tops, are deemed unsuitable clothing during these periods as they provide inadequate protection from UV.

From the 20th of August to 30th of April, staff and students are required to wear sun-protective hats that protect the face, neck and ears when outdoors, for example broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket. Students who are not wearing appropriate protective clothing or a hat may be asked to play in the shade or in a suitable area protected from the sun.

Optional school hats are available to be purchased from the office.

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.

3. CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Fitzroy North 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 Complaints Policy, available at https://www.fitzroynthps.vic.edu.au/policies.

4. COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

5. FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Fitzroy North Primary School Sun Protection Policy
- Fitzroy North Primary School Complaints Policy
- Fitzroy North Primary School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education Student Dress Code
- Department of Education Student Engagement policies and guidelines.

6. POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2024
Consultation	Policy and Curriculum Subcommittee: May 2024 School Council: May 2024 Policy and Curriculum Subcommittee: June 2024
Approved by	School Council: June 2024
Next scheduled review date	2028