KARINGAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

No. 4922

DRESS CODE POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Karingal Primary School's requirements for student dress and appearance and to provide information about the uniform purchase and support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by Karingal 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 Karingal Primary School's commitment to ensuring that our students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- reduce student competition based on 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 travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Karingal Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are available in Appendix A to this policy.

General Appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Karingal 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, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

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.
- No unnatural hair colours are permitted ie: purple & green etc
- School uniform hats must be worn outside during Terms 1 and 4. 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 Lowes Karingal or Frankston
Uniforms can be tried on at the school or at Lowes at:

- 330 Cranbourne Road, Frankston, VIC 3199

Karingal Primary School also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal or Primary Welfare Officer to discuss the 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/

Karingal Primary School also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Karingal Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and in enrolment packs. 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.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code regularly, a note will be provided to the student and 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.

Measures taken by Karingal 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 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 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
- 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. 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

Karingal 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
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

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

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

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Karingal Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Karingal Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Karingal 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	October 2025
Ratified by School Council	November 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2028

APPENDIX A: KARINGAL PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

(AVAILABLE FROM Lowes)

UNIFORM ITEMS

- Short sleeve Polo Shirt with school logo
- Long Sleeve Polo Shirt with school logo
- Bomber Jacket with school logo
- Crew Neck Windcheater with school logo
- Zip Yoke Windcheater with school logo
- Navy Shorts
- Navy Track Pants
- Navy Pants
- Safety Slouch Hat with school logo
- Short sleeve Polo Shirt with school logo
- Summer Dress
- Navy Skort
- Navy Box Pleat Tunic
- Navy Box Pleat Skirt

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

- Navy Art Smock
- Navy Raincoat
- Book Bag with school logo
- School Backpack with school logo
- Navy/School Hair Accessories
- Navy or White socks
- Navy Tights

Footwear

- Black laced/buckle shoes
- Black runners
- Navy socks