

Weeroona College Bendigo Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the administration office.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Weeroona College Bendigo 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 Weeroona College Bendigo'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:

- promote:
 - a sense of identity and pride
 - cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- encourage students to develop pride in their appearance
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces

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

The full list of Weeroona College Bendigo's compulsory school uniform items are available at Appendix A to this policy.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Weeroona College Bendigo 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 non hooded navy-blue 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.

Sun safety

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a school hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing sunscreen.

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 Noone in Queen Street Bendigo.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact students advisor or the college Business Manager 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

Weeroona College Bendigo will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website. 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 on a recurring basis, 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 Weeroona College Bendigo 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 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 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

Weeroona College Bendigo 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 *Complaint Policy*

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Weeroona College Bendigo Sunsmart Policy
- Weeroona College Bendigo Parent Complaint Policy
- Weeroona College Bendigo 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	March 2023
Consultation	College Council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	March 2026

INFORMATION

School Uniform

Student Uniform Guidelines

The Weeroona College Bendigo uniform is available through the Noone School Uniform Shop in Queen Street Bendigo.

Practical subjects have specific requirements with respect to protective clothing, including footwear in designated areas.

Excessive make-up, nail polish and jewellery are not permitted.

Exceptional circumstances may lead to a student coming to school not in full uniform. This must be clearly explained by written note from a parent/guardian on that day. Students may be expected to change into 'spare' uniform items which are kept within each Learning Community. Ongoing failure to comply with this requirement may result in further consequences.

Parents must apply to the Learning Community Leaders with a medical certificate to gain an exemption for uniform items.

It is important to clearly name all your children's belongings, particularly clothing that they are likely to remove at school. Please check occasionally that the labels are intact.

Families who experience financial hardship in meeting the costs of school uniform are encouraged to contact the College.

Footwear

- Black leather, lace up school shoes or black leather runners that are cut under the ankle. Shoes must be totally black including laces.
- Physical Education - Lace up runners with non-marking soles
- Must be OH&S compliant

Hats

- Navy bucket hat embroidered with logo
- Students are encouraged to wear their hat when they are outside and for physical education and sport.
- Beanie

Outer Garments

- Navy woollen jumper with College crest.
- Soft Shell Jacket
- College Rugby Top
- Year 10 students have the option of wearing the current Year 10 Rugby Top

Shirts

- College Polo Shirt with crest
- Long sleeve navy T Shirt may be worn under polo shirt

Trouser, Slacks & Shorts

- Navy College trousers or slacks - No labeling eg Nike, Adidas
- Navy loose fitting shorts- no labelling
- Navy loose fitting track pants - no labelling

Dresses/Skirts

- College winter skirt and navy tights or white/navy socks.
- College summer dress and navy tights or white/navy ankle socks

Physical Education & Sport

- College navy shorts
- College navy track pants
- College navy/white polo top with crest to be worn on physical education or sports days

