STUDENT DRESS CODE

School council has developed and reviewed the student dress code in accordance with the Updated (April 2025) Education Department's Student Dress Code policy guidance on the School Policy and Advisory Guide. Department Student Dress Code

This includes ensuring our student dress code meets human rights and anti-discrimination requirements, includes exemption processes and addresses health and safety considerations. School council has also ensured they have properly consulted with the school community in developing/reviewing this student dress code.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Mirboo North Secondary College's (MNSC), requirements for student dress and appearance. This document will provide information about uniform purchase & support, dress code implementation and exemption processes.

This dress code has been developed by the Mirboo North Secondary College School Council in close consultation with our school community to ensure that it respects the rights of individual students while reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community, belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support MNSC'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 is inclusive, 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 Mirboo North's compulsory school uniform items is available in **Appendix A to this policy.**

OVERVIEW:

The uniform includes: black compliant shoes (please see Appendix A), black pants and shorts, the purple school polo top, school windcheater & / or polar fleece and winter jackets / coat, as well as a school summer dress and winter skirt. Many items carry the school logo.

At the time of this policy review, some school uniform items are being discontinued, however it is still acceptable to wear these 'old' items as part of the school uniform while still in good condition.

General appearance

While at school, travelling to or from school, unless travelling to sport or work after school, or participating in school activities, MNSC students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good condition
- Uniform items are recommended to be clearly marked with the owner's name
- NO Hoodies may be worn at any time.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, **Please see Appendix A**

Jewellery

Students are permitted to wear jewellery to school. However 'large' jewellery that dangles or is likely to get caught in equipment cannot be worn in Technology, Science or PE areas/classrooms as an OH&S consideration.

Hair

Longer hair is recommended to be tied back as part of OH&S recommendations and cannot be worn down in Technology, Science or PE areas/classrooms as an OH&S consideration.

Sun Protection

As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade and wearing sunscreen.

Hats & beanies must be removed when entering the classroom spaces.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the MNSC main school office.

Some items, (such as the school black polar fleece with logo), will need to be ordered online. Sizes are available to try on at the main office.

When this is the case, parents will be informed and given an opportunity to place an order.

Second-hand uniform items are often available through the Mirboo North Opportunity shop.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Business manager to discuss support that we may be able to be provided 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

MNSC will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and transition information packs. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code, a note should be provided by the parents, and given directly to the Coordinator. 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 MNSC 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 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
- 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

MNSC welcomes feedback from the school community – parents, students and staff - 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 website.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- MNSC Parent Complaint Policy
- MNSC Student Wellbeing & Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training Student Dress Code
- Department of Education and Training Student Engagement policies and guidelines.

REVIEW CYCLE

This Student Dress Code Policy was last approved by the Mirboo North School Council in Term 4 2025. The next full review will be scheduled in Term 4 2028.

APPENDIX A: MIRBOO NORTH SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

The following items are to be worn by all students all year round. The College promotes an inclusive environment.

Windcheater/Jumper
Purple with school logo [This item is not longer available for purchase but can still to worn as part of the uniform].

Polo Shirts
White short sleeved with school logo – plain long white sleeve top (without a hood) may be worn underneath. [Only limited supplies available for purchase – being discontinued].

Purple and black with school logo – plain long black sleeve top (without a hood) may be worn underneath.

Shorts
Plain black shorts with school logo – two cuts available from the uniform shop.
Or

Plain black shorts with NO LOGOS – **suitable & appropriate for a school / work environment.**

EG: bike shorts would NOT be considered appropriate.

Plain black skorts – **may be worn.**

Skirt
Winter skirt – plain black tights / stockings may be worn with skirt [Limited stock available but being discontinued].
Plain black skirts may also be worn - **suitable & appropriate for a school / work environment.**

Dress
Purple and white school dress – plain long white sleeve top (without a hood) may be worn underneath

Pants
Long pants with school logo – available from the uniform

shop

Or

Plain, black casual pants / neat black pants INCLUDING tracksuit pants with ONLY DISCREET writing, images, or logos.

APPENDIX A: MIRBOO NORTH SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

Black Polar Fleece jumper with school logo. (see page 3 of policy for purchasing details)

Jacket / Coat
Soft Shell black jacket with school logo.
or
Black heavy winter coat with school logo.

Footwear
Black school shoes, pull on black school boots or PREDOMINATELY black runners. (Some colour on black shoes is acceptable).

Thongs, slip-on ballet flats or open-toed sandals are not permitted. Appropriate closed-toe footwear is to be worn, **as per suitable for a school or work environment and compliant with OH&S requirements.**

Socks
Black or white socks only.

OUT OF UNIFORM EVENTS & SPORTS DAYS:
Students must still adhere to the OH&S requirements above – particularly around footwear, sun protection and appropriate attire.

Year 12
Students completing year 12 will be given the option of wearing a year 12 rugby top and / or jacket.