

Uniform Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school 9387 6133 or brunswick.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Brunswick Secondary College'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 Brunswick Secondary College'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
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

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

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

The full list of Brunswick Secondary College'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, students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair and worn as intended
- Uniforms should 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

Health and safety

- Jewellery, nails, hair accessories and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.
- Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back for student safety in subjects where safety is a concern.
- 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 uniform shop at school on Monday between 8-9 am and Wednesday between 3-4 pm, or parents/carers may order it directly from DCS Uniforms at <https://www.dcsuniforms.com.au/collections/brunswick-secondary-college> or by appointment at Unit 13 / 34-42 Aberdeen Rd, Altona. Additional hours of operation (for example at the beginning and end of the year) will be advertised to the school community via the Compass portal when required.

Non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from other stores. Non-branded items should be similar in colour, fabric and style as the BSC uniform store items.

Brunswick Secondary College's Parents' Club also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents/carers, usually at least once each term. These are advertised on the Compass Newsfeed. Items may be donated to the Parent Association via the General Office.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable by sourcing competitively priced items. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep or year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

Please contact the principal or year level coordinator to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

Implementation

Brunswick Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and on Compass. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, a detention will be issued. The Assistant 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 Brunswick Secondary College 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.

Any student that attends school not in uniform must report to the Year Level Coordinator on arrival at school and prior to the commencement of classes. Where Parent/Carer has provided the student with a note (signed, dated and stating reason), this must be given to the Year Level Coordinator. Year Level Coordinators will issue a Uniform Pass to students who provide a note or an adequate reason for being out of uniform. Throughout the school day, if a student is identified as out of uniform and cannot produce a Uniform Pass, the teacher will issue an Out of Uniform entry on Compass, visible to student and parents/carers.

Exemptions to the student dress code

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing or in person to the Year Level Coordinator for an exemption to this Student Dress Code if:

- an aspect of the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate financial 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

Concerns about this student dress code

Brunswick Secondary College 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*, available on the school website.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Shared on Compass Newsfeed
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- 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
- The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

Further information and resources

- Brunswick Secondary College SunSmart Policy
- Brunswick Secondary College Complaint Policy
- Brunswick Secondary College 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

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- letters, emails and social media messages to parents/carers
- surveys
- information in newsletters
- public meetings
- student meetings
- focus groups
- information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Consultation materials will be translated into community languages.

Policy last reviewed	April 2026
Consultation	26/02/2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2028

APPENDIX A: Brunswick Secondary College Uniform Items

- Uniform items can be viewed online at DCS Uniforms website - www.dcsuniforms.com.au.
- Students can choose to wear any uniform item at any time throughout the year, based on their own comfort level. Brunswick Secondary College is a gender inclusive school and uniform items are not specific to gender.

General Uniform

Lower uniform options	Checked dress with socks or Long skirt (navy blue) or Plaid (tartan) skirt with socks (white, navy blue or black) or tights (navy blue) or Tailored shorts or long pants (navy blue) with socks or Sport shorts (navy blue) or Track pants (navy blue)
Short sleeve top options	Polo top (teal) with logo – long or short sleeve or Collared school shirt (white, faint grey stripe) – long or short sleeve or Sport polo shirt (navy blue) with logo
Jumper options	V-neck jumper (navy blue) with logo or Quarter zip polar fleece (navy blue) with logo
Jacket options	Blazer (navy blue) with logo or Soft-shell jacket (navy blue) with logo and/or Puffer coat (navy blue) with logo
Sock options	Socks – (white, navy blue or black) or Tights (navy blue)
Hair accessory options	Hair accessories (navy blue) and/or Headscarf (white, navy blue or black)
Shoe options	Shoes must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must be completely black, white or black and white. • must be leather lace-up, leather T-bar or sports shoe

Physical Education & Sport Uniform

Sports Uniform must be worn for interschool sport, Physical Education classes and Sport Education classes where physical activity is undertaken.

Sports Uniform and runners can be worn on throughout the day of the activity, Physical Education or Sport Education class. Students can change in/out of the sports uniform at school if preferred.

Lower half options	Sports shorts (navy blue) or Track pants (navy blue) or Long skirt (navy blue)
Short sleeve options	Sports shirt (navy blue) with logo
Shoe options	Runners (any colour) & socks (white, navy blue or black)

Year 12 Uniform

Year 12 students are expected to wear the same uniform items, except for the voluntary addition of two Graduating Class uniform items as approved by the principal. This item is designed and voted on by students when they are in Year 11, to be worn in Year 12.

Non-Year 12 students are not permitted to wear a Year 12 uniform item.