**Manangatang P-12 College Student Dress Code**

**Help for non-English speakers**

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Manangatang P-12 College – 03 5035 1270

**Purpose**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Manangatang P-12 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 Manangatang P-12 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:

* foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
* support Manangatang P-12 College’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.

**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 Example School’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
* 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
* Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery
* Any make up or nail polish must be natural/neutral tones only

**Health and safety**

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories and similar items that interfere with students’ ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology classes where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

School uniform hats must be worn outside during Terms 1 and 4 and on any other day prescribed by the school. 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 the Office at school, or parents may order it directly from Clarks in Swan Hill.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](https://www.vic.gov.au/help-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](https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform (ASU) program.

Please contact the Principal or the Wellbeing Coordinator to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

**Implementation**

Manangatang P-12 College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and Newsletter article. 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 on a recurring basis, 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 Example 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 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 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 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
* 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**

Manangatang P-12 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 *Complaint Policy*, available from the Office.

**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
* Hard copy available from school administration upon request

**Further information and resources**

* Manangatang P-12 College Sunsmart Policy
* Manangatang P-12 College Complaint Policy
* Manangatang P-12 College Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
* Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy)
* Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-engagement/policy).

**POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

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| Policy last reviewed | 13th August 2024 |
| Consultation | College Council |
| Approved by | College Council |
| Next scheduled review date | August 2027 |

**APPENDIX A: MANANGATANG P-12 COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS**

**Uniform requirements**

Students will only wear authorised Manangatang P-12 College uniform items in accordance with the policy. Variations to the uniform policy will only be acceptable, if an exemption has been granted by the College Council. Uniform Requirements are as follows:

**Both girls and boys** **Summer/Winter**

* College logo polar fleece or soft shell jacket.
* Navy and sky blue organic cotton polo shirt with College logo.
* Sky Blue long sleeved, collared and buttoned shirt with College logo.
* Navy shorts.
* Navy slacks
* College logo windcheater in Navy or cobalt
* Black school shoes enclosed at the toe and heel to prevent injury.
* Black or White socks
* Wide brimmed navy hats are compulsory from September to April and whenever UV levels reach three and above
* College beanie in the winter months (optional)

**Girls – Summer/Winter**

* Dress of white plaid, hemmed to no shorter than 15cm past fingertips with arms at side. Must be worn with navy bike shorts that are no longer than the length of the dress.
* Navy dress shorts or culottes, minimum mid-thigh length.

**Sports – Summer/Winter**

* Navy and sky blue/yellow (Wattle house) or navy and red/green (Mallee house) polo shirt with College logo.
* Navy shorts.
* Navy track pants, no stripes or large brand logos
* Athletic footwear appropriate to sporting activity.

The College recommends all shorts, culottes and slacks be of navy gabardine material for uniformity, purchased from our uniform supplier – Clarks Gift Salon, in Swan Hill.

Manangatang P-12 College recognises that personal appearance is an important element of self-expression and expects all students to exercise appropriate judgment with regards to personal presentation while keeping in line with our School Values.

* Sunglasses may be worn.
* Religious or cultural attire where a variation or exemption has been applied for through the College Council.
* Jewellery is limited to a wrist watch, plain stud/sleeper earrings, medical alert bands.
* Make up is limited to foundation/concealer. Coloured make-up and coloured nail polish cannot be worn while at school.
* Hair longer than collar length must be tied back appropriately, regardless of gender.
* Tattoos must not be offensive.
* Approved alternative uniform must be principally one of the College primary colours. Manangatang P-12 College Logo must be included on all designs.
* Non-uniform items may be worn during approved Out of Uniform days. These days will be communicated officially through the College newsletter, bulletin and website. Students are expected to wear clothes that are Sun Smart and that adhere to occupational health and safety guide lines.
* All items of clothing should be clearly labelled.

**Sport Uniform**

* Students and parents are required to comply with the requirements regarding the Sports Uniform. The Sports uniform must be worn in its entirety and not combined with non-sport uniform items.
* The Sports Uniform is to be worn during practical PE classes and on days indicated by the school as appropriate.
* Students may wear the sports uniform all day on days they have scheduled Physical Education/Sport practical classes.
* Students may wear the sports uniform to school, if they have PE in first two sessions, or from school if they have PE in last lesson.
* Students who do not wear Sport uniform to College on the day they have scheduled Physical Education/Sport practical classes or excursions will be expected to change into Sport uniform for practical classes. An opportunity to change prior to and at the end of any practical session will be provided.
* In cold or inclement weather students are permitted to wear school logoed windcheater or polar fleece jacket.
* If a student is temporarily unable to wear Sport uniform on Physical Education/Sport days the student must wear regulation College uniform to and from school and provide a note to their teacher. They can change into alternative and similar sports clothes for that class only

**\*Important note: Students preferring non-black sports shoes or trainers must bring these to change into for the activity. Only black shoes are permitted to be worn to and from the College.**