



Maribyrnong College

Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Maribyrnong College on 03 9091 8100 or maribyrnong.sc@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Maribyrnong 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 Maribyrnong 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 Maribyrnong 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.

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

Maribyrnong College's uniform is available to all students and provides practical options for all genders, cultural groups and religions. The wearing of the uniform is compulsory for all students across Years 7 to 12. Students must wear appropriate uniform on all excursions and school activities unless the nature of the activity renders other clothing more appropriate and the Principal has approved the wearing of other clothing.

The school's uniform and dress code for students including compulsory and non-compulsory school uniform items, can be found in Appendix A.

General appearance

Whilst at school, travelling to or from school, or participating in school activities, Maribyrnong College students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name

Adornments

Only minimal jewellery is permitted, and no obvious make-up or nail polish is to be worn. Minimal jewellery and adornments are defined as:

- **Tattoos**
Illegal under the age of 18 and therefore strictly banned. Any existing tattoos must not be visible.
- **Piercings**
A maximum of two small plain sleepers or small studs per ear. One small clear nose piercing allowed. No other facial piercings permitted.
- **Necklaces**
One chain with or without religious/cultural insignia, to be worn under dress or shirt and not to be visible. No other necklaces are permitted.
- **Watch**
Plain and discreet.
- **Bracelets**
No bracelets permitted for health and safety reasons. Religious or medical alert bracelets with Principal's permission only.
- **Rings**
One plain, discreet ring only.
- **Neck and headscarves**
School neck scarf/headscarf or plain navy or black neck scarf/head scarf.
- **Bags**
School backpack or plain navy blue with no adornments.

Hats

The school has a hat and cap option. The school uniform hat or cap can be worn outside during recess and lunchtime. The school uniform hat or cap may also be worn during outdoor sports activities and school incursions and excursions when students find themselves outside. As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing the school hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade.

A plain navy beanie may be worn in colder weather during recess and lunch breaks outside.

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.

Hats and sunglasses must not be worn inside.

Hair and facial hair

Hair styles must be compatible with OHS guidelines (eg. tied back in Food Technology) and not extreme. Beards must be neatly trimmed.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from the school uniform shop school or online at <https://www.dcsuniforms.com.au/collections/maribyrnong-secondary-college>. Maribyrnong Sports Academy (MSA) students order their MSA-specific sports uniform requirements separately as advised.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the General office 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

Maribyrnong College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through Enrolment Packs, Compass Newsfeed and the school website. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items are asked to report to their Year Level Coordinators before school to collect a uniform pass for the day. Students will be asked to provide a written reason for the uniform change from a parent or guardian. Students without a written reason will be issued with a uniform breach. Students who fail to follow the school's uniform dress code on multiple occasions will be required to attend a Detention.

These measures taken by Maribyrnong 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.

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

Maribyrnong 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- SunSmart Policy
- Parent Complaint Policy
- 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	November 2023
Consultation	Uniform sub-committee (including students, staff and SC President), school council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2026

APPENDIX A: UNIFORM ITEMS

Standard School Uniform

- Shorts (grey) - two cuts available
- Trousers (grey) - two cuts available
- White short-sleeve shirt (with logo)
- White long-sleeve shirt (with logo)
- Checked dress - advised for summer
- Skirt - advised for winter
- Jumper (cherry red) - advised for winter
- Socks: plain white (no logo)
- Traditional lace-up black leather/leather-look school shoes with a small heel between 1 and 3cm
- School bag/plain navy bag
- Year 12 Jacket - Year 12 students only

Sports Uniform

- School sport polo shirt
- School sport shorts
- School tracksuit pants
- Plain white sports socks
- School sports jacket
- Sport runners (casual/fashion sneakers are not suitable)

Optional Uniform Items

- Blazer- advised for winter
- School winter jacket
- School scarf (or plain navy or black scarf)
- School cap
- School hat
- Plain navy beanie
- Plain black tights
- Hijab (navy, black or white only)

Uniform Dress Code Options for standard school uniform

<u>Option 1 (Recommended for Summer)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shirt - Short or Long Sleeve• Shorts• Jumper and/or Year 12 Jacket• Blazer• Sports jacket• White socks and school shoes	<u>Option 3 (Recommended for Summer)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dress• Jumper and/or Year 12 Jacket• Blazer• Sports Jacket• White socks and school shoes
<u>Option 2 (Recommended for Winter)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shirt - Long or Short Sleeve• Long Pants• Jumper and/or Year 12 Jacket• Blazer• Sports Jacket• Winter jacket• White socks and school shoes	<u>Option 4 (Recommended for Winter)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shirt - Long or Short Sleeve• Skirt• Jumper and/or Year 12 Jacket• Blazer• Sports Jacket• Winter jacket• Navy tights or white socks and school shoes

Correct wearing of uniform:

- Shorts/dresses/skirts of students need to be of an appropriate length, as not to restrict student participation in school activities.
- No long-sleeved tops are to be worn under short sleeve shirts or dresses. Only plain white t-shirts/singlets can be worn under the school shirt or dress.
- Plain opaque navy tights can only be worn with the school skirt.
- A student may wear their sports uniform for the day, including to and from school, when student has a scheduled sports activity during the normal school day (9:00am to 3:10pm) for a practical PE class, sports class or HPP class. If a student has training before or after school but no sports class during the normal school day, they are required to change into their regular school uniform for the school day.
- School hats are encouraged outdoors but are not to be worn in the school buildings.