



# Uniform Dress Code – Commencing 2026.

## Purpose

To ensure clarity of expectations. This Code is about:

- Promoting a sense of identity, 'kingfisher pride' and cohesion in the school.
- Allowing all students to feel equal and preventing bullying and competition around clothing.
- Ensuring students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community.
- Enhancing individual student and group safety.
- Ensuring all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- Preparing students for workplace expectations.

## Function

The dress code sets out how students should wear the school uniform. The dress code takes precedence over an individual's preferences.

## 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.

The School Council has worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, by including generic options. 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 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 our team to discuss support if needed.

Preston High School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website and Compass. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible. Measures taken by Preston High School to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will be addressed in accordance with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy.

## Dress Code

The Uniform means items provided by the Preston High School uniform supplier for the purpose of the Preston

High School uniform, and any generic equivalents specified by the School in this code.

Students may wear any of the Preston High School Uniform items made available to them. There are no gender-based restrictions.

While students will dress appropriately for the weather, items may be worn trans-seasonally. That is, a student could wear shorts all year.

Non-uniform garments are not permitted except:

- Generic options as listed in this dress code and meeting the design specifications listed, and
- Undergarments and thermals that are not visible underneath the uniform (except that black or white thermal tops may be worn under the dress).

All garments must be worn as intended by the designer / cut of the garment. That is, items should not be rolled up, hemmed up, sewn or cut to appear, sit or function in any other way than intended.

### Limited Generic options

Permitted generic items that may be purchased instead of the same items supplied by the uniform supplier include the following (**NOTE**, Generic items **must not** have any branding, logos or text whether embroidered or printed):

- Generic black stockings and black or white socks

Generic Sports options (only permitted on days when the student has a PE practical lesson):

- Generic black or charcoal coloured, mid-thigh sports shorts made of a loose-fitting cotton or polyester-type fabric.
- Generic black or charcoal coloured, track-suit pants made of a loose-fitting cotton or polyester-type fabric.

Generic Academic options:

- Generic charcoal coloured, mid-thigh skirt made of a cotton or wool fabric.
- Generic charcoal coloured, mid-thigh academic shorts made of a loose-fitting cotton or wool fabric.
- Generic charcoal coloured academic trousers made of a loose-fitting cotton or wool fabric.
- **Note:** Generic sports options are **only permitted** on days when the student has a HPE practical session.



Black leather school shoes or T-bar sandals (fully enclosed toe, heel and side) are the only permitted shoe (except for PE classes). Shoes must be: (a) Black (b) Leather (c) A school shoe - **not** a black leather skate shoe, slipper, dance shoe, street shoe, etc. Parents are responsible for ensuring shoes purchased fit this code.

Sports uniform should be worn on the day of sport classes and special events such as interschool sports. Students can add warmer layers (ie Jumper) as required from the standard uniform, but these should remain in the locker during sport activities. Yr 10-12 students who do not study Year 10 or VCE P.E. should not be in the sports uniform.

Jewellery must not include drop earrings. Necklaces and bracelets that may tangle in machinery or equipment are dangerous and should not be worn.

### Religious, cultural, medical or sensory requirements

Where a student requires modification to the standard uniform for medical or recognised religious purposes these will be accommodated when agreed by the school Principal. Where possible any relevant fabrics should match school colours and/or be purchased from the school's uniform supplier.

### Exemptions to student dress code

We acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may impact students differently. Students and their parents or carers may apply in writing to the principal for an exemption to this Student Dress Code (in accordance with the Department's [Student Dress Code: Exemption procedures](#)) 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

Preston High School 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 on Compass.

### Communication

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

- available publicly on our school's website

### Policy review and approval

For future substantive changes (other than any required by the Department of Education) of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through surveys. The community will be given advance notice of any consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Endorsed by School Council June, 2025.  
Review date 2028.