Wycheproof P12 College
School Student Dress Code

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact Wycheproof P12 College. Phone: (03) 54937409
Email: wycheproof.p12@education.vic.gov.au

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Wycheproof P12 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 Wycheproof P12 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 current uniform serves the school well and, as a general rule, the school will aim to minimize changes to the uniform. Any significant changes to the uniform will be communicated to parents in advance. Significant changes to the uniform will involve a phase-in period of one year. Changes to the school uniform will only occur with the Principal's and School Council's approval. Parents, staff and students will be consulted during any changes. The student dress code policy has been updated to help make uniforms more affordable. The update includes requirements that:

- all student dress codes ensure uniform is affordable
- uniforms do not include branded pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, leggings and socks.

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.

Wycheproof P-12 College is a co-educational school with a strong academic tradition and a positive learning atmosphere. The nature and style of our uniform reflects this. One of the ways students demonstrate their membership and support of the school community is through the wearing of our uniform and as a measure of safety on school excursions. The school also needs the support and involvement of parents and staff in ensuring that students have the correct school uniform on all occasions and that the uniform proudly reflects our school community. **The wearing of the Wycheproof P-12 College School uniform is compulsory**. Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

SCOPE

Students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code while travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

Health and safety

Students with shoulder length or longer hair are encouraged to tie back their hair to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety. Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back for student safety in technology subjects. School uniform hats must be worn outside during Terms 1 and 4 and on any other day prescribed by the school. Students are permitted to wear sunglasses during outdoor activities.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Quality, school accepted uniforms new and secondhand, are available from the School Uniform Shop which is situated on the school campus. The uniform shop carries many school uniform items. The school has made every endeavour to keep the uniform prices competitive whilst at a high quality. Families experiencing difficulty purchasing the correct uniform items should contact the Principal. Uniform items are also available second hand at the Wycheproof Op Shop.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, including access to a range of second-hand uniform 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, or you may be eligible to receive a uniform package from State Schools' Relief.

Please contact the principal or office staff to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Wycheproof P-12 College will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website. 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/carers by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the student 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 Wycheproof P12 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 acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may 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 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/carer
- 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

Wycheproof 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 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
- hard copy available from school administration upon request.

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- students
- parent/carers
- teachers and other school staff

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Wycheproof P-12 College Sun Protection Policy
- Wycheproof P-12 College Complaint Policy
- Wycheproof P-12 College Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education Student Dress Code
- Department of Education Student Engagement

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

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

- information in newsletters
- student meetings
- 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.

Policy last reviewed	15 – 10 - 2025
Approved by	School Council (at the meeting 15/10/2025 – emailed out to all families and students as part of the consultation process).
Next scheduled review date	March 2029

APPENDIX A: WYCHEPROOF P12 COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

COMPLUSORY UNIFORM ITEMS

- Unisex school polo shirt with school logo.
- Plain navy school shorts/skort.
- Plain navy slacks/track pants.
- Unisex green/navy rugby jumper with school logo.
- White or black socks.
- **HAT-** During Term 1 and 4 all students are required to wear a blue broad brimmed school hat whenever outdoors. Depending on the prevailing weather conditions, these requirements may be extended into early Term 2 and late Term 3. This is the only acceptable hat to be worn during school events unless specified by a member of staff. More details regarding hats can be found in the school's 'Sun Protection Policy'.

OPTIONAL UNIFORM ITEMS

- Summer Dress.
- School winter skirt – Navy/Green check.
- Navy tights with winter skirt.
- Navy softshell jacket with school logo.
- Headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs.
- **BEANIE AND SCARF-** During winter months students may wear a beanie and/or scarf. Both items are to be either solely navy in colour and contain no visible branding or designs or students may choose to wear the school logo beanie and school scarf.
- Hair ties - school colours of navy, bottle green or white or natural hair colour.
- Long sleeved NAVY tops may be worn under the polo t-shirt or short sleeved tops may be worn as long as they are not visible.
- **VCE STUDENTS:** A VCE unisex school rugby jumper may be worn by all students in Year 11 and 12. The colours of this jumper are to be navy, bottle green and white. The design of the jumper will include input from students and staff. No nicknames will appear on the jumper. The rugby jumper must include the school logo.

SPORTS UNIFORM

- **Polo T-shirt** Navy/red school polo t-shirt with school logo.
- **Singlet** Navy/red singlet with school logo (Year 5-12 only).
- **Shorts** Navy shorts (Lycra tights are also acceptable).
- **Pants** Navy track pants.
- **Jumper** Unisex green/navy rugby jumper with school logo.
- **Shoes** Runners.

PREP – YEAR 4

On the days that Prep – Year 4 students have PE scheduled, students can wear the school sport uniform to school with their runners. Alternatively they can wear the regular school uniform with black shoes or change into their runners for the lesson. All Prep – Year 4 students will require a school sports t-shirt for whole school/ interschool sports events.

YEAR 5-12

Students in Years 5-12 are required to change out of their school uniform into the preferred school sports uniform for all PE/SPORT classes. However students with PE/SPORT in Period 1 may wear their sports clothes to school but must change to the regular school uniform after that class. Students with PE/SPORT in Period 6 may wear their sports clothes home.

Students in Year 5-12 who have an incorrect change of clothes with or without a note will still be required to participate in PE/SPORT class.

- **The PE/SPORT uniform or house sports colours (Broadway = Red, Calder = Blue) is compulsory to wear on school house sports days and for any inter-school/state championships.**

Consequences for not wearing the correct school sports uniform on school house sports days and inter-school/state championships:

- Students failing to comply may be given the correct sports uniform items to wear and/or may not be allowed to participate in sporting activities. This will be at the discretion of the Principal/Year Level Coordinator and/or Sports Teacher.
- During the P-4 Swimming program, students must wear a top/rashie that covers their shoulders. Students may swim without a rash top/t-shirt whilst swimming competitively in school swimming sports.

FOOTWEAR

- Black - Leather lace-up, velcro or buckle, black sneakers or T-Bar shoes. Laces must be black.
- All shoes must be totally black, enclose the toe and be made of non-pervious materials in accordance with safe work practice.

OTHER:

- **HAIR-** Hairstyles must be neat and clean. For hygiene and safety reasons, all hair that is of shoulder length or longer is to be tied up. Hair obstructing vision must be pinned away from the face. All hair ornamentations should be kept to a minimum and may include ribbons and elastic bands. It is preferred that these are in the school colours of navy, bottle green or white or natural hair colour.
- **JEWELLERY-** In order to comply with Workplace Health and Safety Guidelines and to maintain high standards of appearance jewellery is to be kept to a minimum. Students may wear a watch and sleeper and/or simple stud earrings. Jewelry may not be allowed in classes where safety is an issue.
- **NAIL POLISH-** Nail polish is permitted but for hygiene and safety reasons must not be worn for Home Economics classes. Students will be asked to remove nail polish if they are wearing it in this class. This reflects current real-life work practices.

Uniform Free Days

On specified days students may be permitted to wear free dress as part of a fundraising effort for charities, etc. Students need to wear appropriately modest clothing, inappropriate clothing must not be worn. The usual safety regulations regarding the wearing of closed in shoes and SunSmart clothing still applies.

Excursions

To ensure the safety of all students when they are away from the school property, it is school policy that only students in school uniform may attend excursions unless otherwise organised. Students out of uniform on the day of the excursion will remain at school.

NCTTC- Year 9, VCAL and VET subjects

Students attending NCTTC to complete subjects are expected to wear Wycheproof P-12 College uniform unless their class teacher has notified students otherwise. If students are completing practical classes, they must adhere to Health and Safety requirements.