**UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE POLICY**

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**PURPOSE**

The staff and School Council believe that a compulsory school uniform will assist students to develop a sense of pride and belonging to the school. It will also enable the local community to recognise students who attend the school.

**OBJECTIVE**

The objectives of this policy are:

* to encourage students to develop pride in, and a sense of belonging to, the school
* to reduce peer pressure related to clothing choices
* to assist staff to easily recognise and supervise children when out of the school
* to reduce clothing costs to families over a period of time.

**SCOPE**

This policy applies to all students attending Bolinda Primary School.

Any suggested amendments to the school uniform and dress code must be voted on by School Council.

**POLICY**

New families will be informed of the school’s uniform requirements upon enrolment and /or during the transition process. The school uniform is required to be worn by all students during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when students are representing the school outside of school hours.

For safety reasons, a wristwatch and earring studs or sleepers are the only permissible jewellery. Any student wearing other items will be asked to place them in their bag.

For health and safety reasons, it is recommended that students with shoulder-length hair or longer have it tied back to reduce the spread of headlice and avoid being caught in playground equipment.

Make-up, nail polish and hair dye are not part of school uniform and must not be worn to school unless planned by the classroom teacher for a specific activity.

Accommodations may be made for students with cultural or religious needs that require variations from the standard school uniform. These will be addressed by the principal on a case-by-case basis. Any parents seeking an exemption from the school uniform and dress code due to student disability, student health or economic hardship should also apply to the principal.

Students attending school without the correct uniform are required to have a letter from their parents specifying the reason. A reminder letter will be sent home for students who are repeatedly out of uniform.

**Uniform**

School uniforms are available for purchase by families through:

BELEZA SCHOOL UNIFORMS GISBORNE

42C Aitken St
Gisborne VIC 3437

Phone: (03) 5428 1285

In order to reduce costs, families may also purchase plain uniforms (without the Bolinda Primary School logo) from any clothing store that stocks uniforms, such as Big W, Best and Less or Target.

The compulsory school uniform will be chosen from the following items:

* Navy shorts
* Navy and white check dress
* Navy pinafore
* Navy netball skirt and bloomers or skorts (NOTE: Bloomers can only be worn under a netball skirt)
* Navy track pants or trousers
* White or navy skivvy
* Navy polo shirt with or without logo
* Navy bomber jacket with or without logo
* Navy windcheater with or without logo
* Navy polar fleece vest or jacket with or without logo
* White or navy socks
* Navy tights or leggings

A school bag with the school logo is not compulsory.

Year 6 commemorative windcheaters and /or poloshirts may be offered to students at their expense and can be worn as part of the school uniform.

All students must have at least one jumper or polo shirt that has the school logo unless an exemption has been approved. These must be worn on excursions, school photo days and other significant days where it is essential students are identifiable through their school uniform. Students not wearing correct school uniform may be prohibited from excursions and from representing the school at interschool sport.

**School hats**

In accordance with the school’s Sunsmart Policy, a wide-brimmed, navy sun smart hat or navy legionnaires hat must be worn when outside in Terms 1 and 4. This includes recess, lunchtime, Physical Education classes and other outside class activities.

**Footwear**

Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. Runners are recommended for Physical Education classes. Black shoes/boots and runners are deemed acceptable footwear at any time. When students participate in Kitchen Garden activities, students may bring gumboots/boots, but must still wear school uniform on these days.

Thongs, ballet flats, open-toed shoes and sandals are not permitted at any time.

Students may take their shoes off in the classroom, but must be wearing slippers as a replacement. At no time should students be walking around the school with no shoes on.

**Sports uniforms**

Sports uniforms for interschool sports events will be issued by Bolinda Primary School to participants prior to the event. Requirements for washing the uniforms and returning to the school will be provided to parents as needed.

If there are any variations to this, the staff member coordinating interschool sports will issue students with any uniform requirements prior to the commencement of events. Any additional supporting uniform requirements will be communicated with parents prior to events.

**Principal’s responsibilities**

The principal is responsible for:

* prescribing alternative clothing to be worn for special occasions or camps, excursions
* excusing a student from wearing school uniform in exceptional circumstances
* addressing any requested alterations to the uniform due to cultural or religious requirements
* assisting students in financial need to acquire uniform items.

**REVIEW CYCLE**

This policy was last updated on 30 August 2020 and is scheduled for review in August 2024.