



STUDENT DRESS CODE

AT COBRAM SECONDARY COLLEGE

The school of choice for the Cobram Community



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Cobram Secondary College, 5871 1700.

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Cobram Secondary College believes every student deserves a safe and positive learning experience where they are engaged and supported to reach their full potential.

The College adheres to the principles of Australian democracy and takes into account the diversity of all children and makes reasonable efforts to accommodate them. This includes (but is not limited to) the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with disabilities, children who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ+) individuals, and children who are vulnerable.

The College is committed to creating a child safe environment protecting children from all forms of abuse and neglect.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Cobram Secondary 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 Cobram Secondary 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 Example School'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, unless specified.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Cobram Secondary College'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, Cobram Secondary College students must comply with the following:

- Dress to the weather conditions
- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must 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 approved uniform (no hoods or collars) or completely hidden.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. One piece for hand, arm and neck. Fine sleepers and stud earrings worn in the ears are acceptable, students may wear facial piercings, stud only (no rings). Students wearing any non-approved item/s will be asked to remove them, they will be placed in a labelled bag at the front office and can be collected at the end of the day.

Minimal make-up is to be worn.

Headwear and Sun safety

It is recommended, shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety.

Navy broad brimmed hats must be worn Term 1 & Term 4 and on any other day prescribed by the school. As we are a secondary school, we expect students to take responsibility for being sun smart by wearing a school hat during outdoor activities or staying in the shade, if they are not wearing a hat. Sunscreen is recommended.

Hats and beanies 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 General Office at school, or a uniform provider as per Appendix A.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal, Office Staff or Wellbeing Team 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/>

Cobram Secondary College also has limited second hand uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Cobram Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code 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.

Cobram Secondary College students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

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. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal or Year Level Leader 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 Cobram Secondary 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 in writing 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

Cobram Secondary 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 schools website.

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
- Included on the staff portal
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Cobram Secondary College Sunsmart Policy
- Cobram Secondary College Parent Complaint Policy
- Cobram Secondary College 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	2022
Consultation	July 2023
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	July 2027

APPENDIX A: COBRAM SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM ITEMS

The following items may be worn all year round.

Jumper

Navy, sky blue & white rugby jumper with school logo.

Polo shirts

Navy, sky blue & white polo with school logo.

Socks or tights/stockings

White, navy, grey or black socks, without decoration or brand name. Navy blue or black tights/stockings to be worn with skirt/kilt.

Footwear

Appropriate footwear is to be worn. All black shoes - summer sandals with covered toes, pull on school boots or runners are permitted. No thongs or open-toed sandals are permitted.

School Coat (Optional Item)

Navy soft-shell jacket with logo.

Headwear

Navy blue or white head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs (Hijab). Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour. Navy broadbrim hat without decoration or brand name.

Beanie & Scarf (Optional Item)

Navy, sky blue & white beanie with school logo. Plain navy or navy & white scarf.

Dresses

Blue and white checked dress.

Shorts

Plain navy blue or grey shorts without decoration or brand name.

Pants

Grey pants, plain navy track pants, without decoration or brand name.

Skivvies – Undergarments

Plain navy, white, black or grey without decoration or brand name.

Skirt – kilt

Navy tartan skirt/kilt to be worn with navy or black tights.

Sport

An appropriate change of clothes and footwear is required.

- Sports shoes that provide adequate ankle support and grip.
- Sports shorts, leggings/active wear or tracksuit pants.
- A sun smart top that fully covers the shoulders and neck.
- College sports polo or school provided sports tops when representing the school.

Cobram Secondary College - Uniforms

Items available at the General Office.

Polo Shirt	(Sizes youth 8 - 16 and adults XS - 5XL)
Rugby Jumper	(Sizes 6 -24)
Soft-Shell Jacket	(Sizes youth 10 - 14 and adults S - 4XL)
Check Dress	(Sizes 4 – 24)
Skirt/Kilt	(Sizes 4 - 28)
Navy Track Pants	(Sizes youth 10 – 14 and Adult S - 3XL)
Navy Shorts	(Sizes youth 10 – 14 and Adult S - 2XL)
Tights – worn with Skirt/Kilt	(Sizes S - XX Tall)
Navy Broad Brimmed Hat	(Sizes L - 59cm, XL - 61cm & 2XL - 63cm)
Navy & White CSC Beanie	(One size)
Navy & White Scarf	(One size)

The school does not sell grey shorts, grey pants, long sleeve undergarments or black shoes, these can be purchased from Cobram Worklocker, department store eg Target, Big W, a uniform outlet or similar.

Minimal second-hand uniform is available.