 <p>Belmont High School 'Strive for the Highest' www.bhs.vic.edu.au</p>	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Belmont High School Dress Code Policy</h1>	
<p>Policy Status: Final</p>	<p>Document Owner: Principal</p>	<p>Authorised by: School Council</p>
<p>Date of issue: 16.9.2025</p>	<p>Review Date: 16.9.2028</p>	<p>Version 1</p>

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Belmont High School’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 Belmont High School’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:

- 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.

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


We see all items on our uniform list as gender neutral.

Our uniform guidelines are designed to be respectful of all religions, allowing for necessary accommodations for religious attire.

General appearance

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

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner’s name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden
- Any make up or nail polish must be neutral tones only.

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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.

Jewelry, nails, hair accessories, hat cords and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology classes where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

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 secondhand uniform shop at school (if stock available) or parents/carers may order it directly from Noone Uniforms, Moorabool St, Geelong, or Noone Belmont, Centreway Arcade, Shop 6/168 High St, Belmont. Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

The Belmont High School Secondhand Uniform Shop is run by Parent's Association volunteers. The shop is open on Friday mornings, 8.30-9.30am. Parent's Association can be contacted via email: belmonthighpa@gmail.com.


The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable. Student uniforms will not include branded pants or shorts that feature the school logo or name. Customised uniform items and unnecessary uniform changes will be avoided. Uniform items can be worn year-round and secondhand uniforms are available for purchase from the school. 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 the school to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

In the event that students are out of uniform, Belmont High School has a uniform pass system which is overseen by the House Leaders. Non-compliance with the student dress code may result in lunchtime or after school detention. Non-compliance measures do not reduce a student's access to learning and do not include checks that might embarrass or humiliate students.

House Leaders also have a supply of clean uniform and shoes, and where practical, students will be loaned items to wear to ensure they meet school uniform requirements.

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Belmont High School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website and with enrolment information, via this link: [Belmont High School Uniform Guide](#)
We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

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/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

Belmont 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 [Complaints Policy](#).

COMMUNICATION

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

- available publicly on our school's website

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- included in transition and enrolment packs
- reminders in our school newsletter
- discussed in student forums
- included in staff handbook/manual
- discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- hard copy available from school administration upon request.

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

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

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- [Sun Protection Policy](#)
- [Complaints Policy](#)
- [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- [Inclusion and Diversity 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:

- Emails and social media messages to parents/carers
- surveys
- information in newsletters
- student meetings
- focus groups
- 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.



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