Billanook Primary School
DRESS CODE - STUDENT POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Billanook Primary 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 Billanook Primary 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:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Billanook Primary 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.

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 with the exception of 'Out of Uniform Days' which will be determined from time to time in an effort to raise money for a variety of reasons and to provide opportunities for free dress.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Billanook Primary has students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

Billanook Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

A special jacket and polo shirt for the Level 6 students will be available for purchase each year.

Please ensure that your child's name is marked clearly on every piece of clothing (including raincoat, shoes, etc.) and on every personal belonging.

Billanook Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

Shirts	**Dress/ Skirt**
School red and green polo shirt with or without logo	Summer dress Winter tartan tunic (button off bib) Winter tartan skirt

Warm Tops	**Pants/ Shorts**
Red and white long sleeve t-shirt (to be worn under winter tunic) Rugby top with school logo Zip bomber jacket with school logo Level 6 jacket	Green poly viscose skorts Green poly viscose shorts Green poly viscose pants Green bootleg pants Green padded knee track pants
Shoes	**Hats**
Black school shoes or appropriate solid footwear. Runners that are safe and secure and appropriately supportive MUST be closed in toe and heel, with laces, buckles or Velcro NO canvas slip on shoes, open toe shoes, roller shoes or fashion boots	Green bucket hat with or without school logo
Sport	**Hair/ Makeup**
Billanook school singlet, house colour t-shirt, or top provided for special events	Hair accessories, bottle green, red, white or black (elastics in black or brown may be worn)
Socks/ Tights	**Jewellery**
Billanook school socks Plain ankle sport socks in bottle green, white, red or black Green tights	Only watches, plain ear-studs or sleepers may be worn as jewellery.
School Bag	**Other items**
Billanook Primary school bag with logo	Raincoats, parkas and scarves in non-school colours may be worn to school but are not permitted to be worn during classes.

The following are not permitted:

- Clothing and accessories with prominently displayed brand names or offensive wording/logos
- Tank tops, singlets and thongs
- Fashion items in school colours
- Extreme body piercing

- Make up, colourful nail polish or artificial nails
- extreme hairstyles (unnatural colours)
- Coloured zinc cream
- Bike pants (unless under school dress)

General appearance

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

- 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 completely hidden.
- Studs, sleepers and watches are the only acceptable jewellery

Health and Safety

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

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.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories 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 where hair should be tied back for safety purposes.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August to 30 April and on any other day prescribed by the school (such as sports days). School uniform hats may also be worn outside of this time period, by parent or student choice.

Hats are not to be worn inside.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from Spartan School World from a variety of locations, or parents may order it directly from their website. Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

Billanook Primary School offers free second-hand uniform which is available in the drawers at the front office.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. 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, you may be eligible to access

the Affordable School Uniform program through State Schools' Relief. Please contact the office to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Billanook Primary School 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.

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 by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the 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 Billanook Primary School 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 there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could 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 THE STUDENT DRESS CODE

Billanook Primary 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 Parent Complaint Policy available on our school 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 as needed
- Discussed in student forums
- Linked in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions as needed
- 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

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

- Billanook Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Billanook Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Billanook Primary School 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

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

- letters, emails and social media messages to parents/carers
- surveys
- information in newsletters
- student meetings
- focus groups

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Consultation materials will be translated into community languages.

Policy last reviewed	August 2025
Consultation	School Council – September 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	August 2029