

Belvoir Special School Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact [insert school contact details].

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Belvoir Special 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 Belvoir Special 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 Belvoir Special 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.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

Junior and Middle year students' uniform

- Navy shorts (knee length or just above)
- Navy track pants in Term 2 and 3 and cooler weather.
- Burgundy polo shirt with collar.
- Burgundy windcheater or button front fleecy jacket available from uniform shop.
- A checked dress, with bike shorts beneath, which is the same across the school.
- Broad-brimmed navy sunhat for Term 1 and 4.
- Black leather school shoes or supportive pair of runners. Sandals with an enclosed heel and toe may be worn in hot weather.

Senior Students:

- Navy shorts (knee length or just above knee) or knee length navy skirt if preferred.
- Navy track pants or trousers in Term 2 and 3 and cooler weather.
- Navy polo shirt with collar.
- Navy jumper.
- Broad-brimmed navy sunhat for Term 1 and 4.

- Black leather school shoes, fully enclosed sandals (summer only) or supportive pair of runners and socks.
- A checked dress for girls, with bike shorts beneath, which is the same across the school

General appearance

While at school, Belvoir Special 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.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun safety

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

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

School Beanie may be worn during cold months.

Hats 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 Beleza Pty Ltd, 94 High Street, Wodonga.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal or Leah Sisley 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/>

IMPLEMENTATION

Belvoir Special 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.

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 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 Belvoir Special 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 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 either in writing or in person 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

Belvoir Special 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 from the office or 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
- Included in staff handbook
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information sessions
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Belvoir Special School Sunsmart Policy
- Belvoir Special School Parent Complaint Policy
- Belvoir Special 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

Policy last reviewed	January 2024
Consultation	September- November 2023 student representative groups, September – November 2023 parent groups, school council
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	November 2027

[NOTE: The Department’s Student Dress Code policy requires School Councils to decide annually whether or not amendments or a full review of the dress code is required].

APPENDIX A: EXAMPLE SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS

The below uniform items and requirements are sample only:

All year round

The following items may be worn all year round, with either the summer or winter uniform:

Jumper or Vest

Green polar fleece with school logo

Navy polar/vest fleece with school logo

Polo shirts

Green long and short sleeved with school logo.

Skorts

Plain navy skorts without decoration or brand name and in winter can be worn with navy blue tights/stockings.

Socks or tights/stockings

Navy blue or white socks

Navy blue tights/stockings

Footwear

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

School Rain Coat (Optional Item)

Navy Blue coat with red collar and school logo

Headwear

Navy blue, green or white head bands, hair ribbons, “scrunchies” or headwear worn as part of cultural/religious beliefs. Elastic Bands used to tie up hair may be worn in any colour.

Summer Uniform – to be worn in Terms 1 and 4

Dresses

Summer blue and white checked dress

Shorts

Plain navy blue shorts without decoration or brand name

Winter Uniform – to be worn in Term 2 and 3

Pants

Plain, navy blue track pants without decoration or brand name

Skivvies

Plain green skivvy

Hats – to be worn from mid-August to 30 April

Navy broadbrim without decoration or brand name.

Sports uniform

Green polo top with navy blue shorts/skirt/skort.

There are specific uniform requirements for students participating in specialist sports such as netball, [INSERT OTHER SPORTS]. These uniforms are provided by the school for the duration of the sports season.