

# DRESS CODE - STUDENTS

*Approved by School Council in June 2020*



## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Thornbury 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 Thornbury 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:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Thornbury High 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**

Thornbury High School has introduced a new uniform in 2020 and is undergoing a two year transition to the new uniform for all students. Thornbury High School has developed a dress code that considers both uniform options and makes it simple for students to comply. 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**

Thornbury High School's uniform is available to all students and provides practical options for all sexes, cultural groups and religions. The wearing of the uniform is compulsory for all students of the college in Years 7 to 12. Students must wear appropriate uniform on all excursions and school activities unless the nature of the activity renders other clothing more appropriate and the Principal has approved the wearing of other clothing.

The school's new uniform, including compulsory and non compulsory school uniform items can be found at Appendix A.

The schools "old" uniform which can be worn by all existing students in years 8-12 can be found at Appendix B

### **General appearance**

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Thornbury High 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

### **Hair and sun safety**

School uniform hats can be worn outside during recess and lunchtime. School uniform hats may also be worn on school incursions and excursions when students find themselves outside. 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.

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**

All uniform items can be purchased from Academy Uniform School Shop, or Academy Uniform Shop. 238 Wolseley Pl, Thomastown VIC 3074. Parents may order items directly from Academy Uniform online and request delivery.

The Sustainable School shop provides families with the opportunity to connect with other families and buy and sell second hand uniform items. All transactions that occur via the Sustainable School Shop are completely independent of the schools business transactions.

### **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the Principal or Subschoools 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 and CSEF. Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: <https://www.ssr.net.au/>

### **Implementation**

Thornbury High School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through Enrolment Packs, Year Level Orientation Packs and Compass Newsfeed. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items are asked to report to their Year Level Coordinators before school to collect a uniform pass for the day. Students will be asked to provide a written reason for the uniform change from a parent or guardian. Students without a written reason will be issued with a School Detention. Students who fail to follow the school's uniform dress code on multiple occasions will have a parent or guardian contacted and be asked to attend a Saturday Detention.

These measures taken by Thornbury High 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 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.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES**

- Sunsmart Policy
- Parent Complaint Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

#### **REVIEW CYCLE**

This Student Dress Code was last approved by School Council in June 2020 and is scheduled for review in June 2023/24.

Appendix 1:

[School Uniform -Dress code \(2020+ Uniform\)](#)

Appendix 2:

[School Uniform -Dress code \(2019 "old" uniform\)](#)