STUDENT DRESS CODE

POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Karoo 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 Karoo 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 Karoo 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.

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

The full list of Karoo Primary School'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, Karoo Primary School students must comply with the following:

- The school colours are bottle green and gold.
- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Socks are to be dark green, black or white. No coloured socks are permitted.
- School bags with the school logo are designed to minimise the risk of back injury to students. These school bags are recommended but not compulsory.
- 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.
- Students are encouraged to select the appropriate clothing from the uniform list when participating in physical activities.
    - Senior students (Years 5 and 6) are able to wear a specifically designed Senior School t-shirt. Specially printed hooded windcheaters are available each year to be worn by Year 6 students only.

Reference: https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy

- Students in Years 3-6 are permitted to wear the Karoo Sports top on the day they have Physical Education and Sport.

All students going on activities outside the school grounds are required to wear school uniform for their own safety (unless otherwise advised).

Free dress days will be allowed at the discretion of Principal. In line with our Sun Smart Policy students must wear closed toed shoes (i.e. no thongs, sandals or slip- on shoes), shoulders must be covered (no strapless tops).

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. Activity trackers (i.e. Fitbit or Garmin) may be worn, but any smart watch that is connectable to the internet must strictly adhere to the Karoo Primary School Mobile Phone policy. Fashion jewellery and 'bands' are not permitted to be worn around the neck, wrists or ankles.

Cosmetics and artificial nails may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted. Temporary tattoos are to be removed when the students are at school. It is recommended that hair colour be the child's natural hair colouring.

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.

Hair accessories (i.e. bows and headbands) must be in Karoo colours – green, gold or black and kept to a minimum.

School uniform hats must be worn outside from 1st August every year 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. 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 directly from **Klad, located at Unit 4, 409-423 Princess Highway, Noble Park.**

Families can purchase pre-loved items of uniform when available. The Karoo Parents' Association (KPA) supports families holding second hand uniform sales during the year. Dates and times are advertised in the school newsletter.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal or Wellbeing Leader 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/. Karoo Primary School can also support families to access 2nd hand uniform.

Implementation

Karoo Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and referring to it in our online newsletter. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

Reference: https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy

Should any student be out of uniform a note from parents must be presented to the student's teacher on the day.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code, the first step will be to give a verbal warning. If a student breaches the Student Dress Code for a second time, or on a recurring basis, a 'Out of Uniform/ No Hat' note will be provided to the student and parents by the classroom teacher. A phone call to parents may also be used to communicate with parents. 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 in a manner that is consistent with the schools' Student code of Conduct and the School's Wellbeing 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.

All exemptions will be recorded and the School Council informed of the Principal's decision.

Concerns about this Student Dress Code

Karoo 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 compliant is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available on our school's 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
- Discussed in student forums

- 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

- Karoo Primary School SunSmart Policy
- Karoo Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Karoo 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

Policy last reviewed	August 2022
Consultation	School Council- Education Sub Committee
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2025

Reference: https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy

Appendix 1 –Uniform List

Current Official Supplier- KLAD, Unit 4 / 409-423 Princess Highway, Noble Park

Tops: T-Shirts/ Jumpers / Jackets

Bomber Jacket Stud Front – bottle green with bottle green/gold stripes in bands
Gold Polo shirt short sleeve (with or without logo)
Polar Fleece Jacket with full Zip – bottle green
Polo Long Sleeve Shirt – gold (with or without logo)
Shorts – bottle green rugby knit (with or without pockets)
Senior Hooded fleece jumper – Year 6 only (available only from Klad Sport)
Senior Polo short sleeved shirt – Years 5 & 6 only (available only from Klad Sport)
Waterproof jacket – bottle green

Bottoms: Dresses/ Shorts / Pants

Bootleg Pants – bottle green cotton/lycra
Bike shorts – bottle green or black (worn only under dress or tunic – not to show below hemline)
Culottes ('skorts') – bottle green
Shorts – bottle green rugby knit (with or without pockets)
Shorts – bottle green gabardine
Summer Dress (bottle green/gold/white tartan – available only from Klad Sport)
Tracksuit Pants (either straight leg or bootleg) – bottle green fleecy
Winter tunic – bottle green

Accessories

Beanie – bottle green (with or without logo)
Hair Accessories –green and gold, black or white plain headbands and accessories
Hat – slouch bottle green (with or without logo)
Hat – legionnaire bottle green (with or without logo)
School Bag – bottle green (with or without logo)
Shoes – Runners, black leather school shoe (lace up, buckle or Velcro) – closed toe and no heels
Socks – white, dark green or black
Tights – bottle green or black

Reference: https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/student-dress-code/policy