



**Broadmeadows**  
**Valley** PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **UNIFORM, DRESS CODE and SUN SMART POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

The wearing of a school uniform, in accordance with the uniform dress code, assists students in recognising themselves as an integral part of the school community. It also helps reinforce pride in, identification with, and respect for their school.

In the establishment of this Dress Code policy issues such as expense, health and safety and equality have been considered. The purpose of this policy is to communicate to the school community, the procedures in place to ensure that all students arrive at school wearing their uniform and in so doing they will assist in promoting the positive image of the school.

This policy also includes important “Sun Smart” guidelines. By adopting sensible sun protection habits from an early age and implementing sun protection measures, schools can play a significant role in reducing skin cancer risk. Hence, Broadmeadows Valley Primary School (BVPS) aims to ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them be responsible for their own safety and protection.

### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to all staff and students. Staff have a responsibility to be aware of the Uniform, Dress Code and Sun Smart guidelines and enforce this policy.

### **POLICY**

#### **Implementation Guidelines**

- After consultation with the school community, the students and Broadmeadows Valley Primary School Council will develop a Uniform, Dress Code and Sun Smart Policy that we believe provides choice for the students, allows for students to safely engage in the many varied school activities, and is cost effective for families.
- The policy, including details of uniform items and the uniform ordering process will be published in the newsletter at the start of each year. Information regarding how to purchase uniforms will be on the website and available at the school’s General Office.
- The Dress Code/Uniform/Sun Smart policy applies during school hours, while travelling to and from school, when students are on school excursions and when students represent the school. Casual dress days may be held throughout the year and the students are not required to wear school uniform on these days.
- Parents must send a written request to the school excusing their child from wearing any item of school uniform on a particular day and outlining the reason.

- When a student is consistently out of uniform, without a valid reason, the Principal, Assistant Principal or teacher, will contact parents.
- Consistent with our Sun Smart Policy, a compliant hat must be worn outdoors from September 1 to May 1.
- School Council requires the Principal be responsible for implementation of this policy in a manner consistent with the Student Engagement and Wellbeing Policy guidelines.
- Arrangements can be made to supply uniforms via recycled uniforms or the *State Schools Relief* for families experiencing economic hardship.
- Parents seeking exemptions to the Dress Code due to religious beliefs, ethnic or cultural background, student disability, health condition or economic hardship must apply in writing to the Principal.
- Any changes to the uniform will be undertaken during the school's normal cycle of policy review processes and only after consultation with the whole school community as per DET guidelines. A uniform committee comprising of parent representatives, staff and students will be established to oversee and recommend any changes to school uniform policy or uniform items.
- Items of clothing found but not identified with a name, will be put in 'Lost Property'. Lost property that is not collected by the end of the term will be recycled and donated to the second-hand uniform collection and provided to students in need.

### **The following criteria are considered to ensure that the uniform is:**

- Comfortable, practical, safe, easy to launder, modest, cost effective, hard wearing, suited to school activities and seasonal weather patterns.
- Distinctive- providing a positive image for public education and our school
- Supportive of our sun smart policy with a "NO HAT NO PLAY" expectation and two choices of hat styles
- Suitable for all body types and students' Prep – Year 6
- Enhanced by the school logo
- Accompanied by a designated bag (optional)
- Made in Australia to as great an extent as possible.
- Supplier is selected based on "Fair- Wear" manufacturing standards accreditation.

### **Expectations:**

- The school and parent community expects that students will be fully outfitted with the prescribed BVPS uniform.
- All items of school uniform must be clearly labelled with the students' name.
- Correct school uniform is a condition for attendance on excursions and for representative sports as well as any other representative school activity.
- 'NO HAT NO PLAY" requires that any student without a school hat must remain in a designated shaded area during recess and lunch playtimes. Hats are NOT to be worn inside.
- It is expected that students will wear appropriate school approved footwear; Examples include runners or sturdy shoes/boots for general daywear (closed toe). Sport shoes should be worn on days when PE or sports activities are scheduled. Students are NOT to wear open toed footwear, thongs, scuffs, high heels, beach sandals or flimsy sandals.

- Where possible it is preferable that rubber soled shoes or shoes that enable students to actively participate and play safely be worn.

## **Sun Smart Guidelines/Behaviours:**

### ***Slip on sun protective clothing***

- Cool, loose-fitting, sun protective clothing made of densely woven fabric is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. It includes shirts with collars and elbow-length sleeves, longer dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming programs.

### ***Slap on a sun protective hat***

- All students and staff wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (legionnaire, broad-brim or bucket hat), whenever they are outside. Caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative.

### ***Slop on sunscreen***

- Students provide their own SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen. This is included on the school's booklist each year. **AND / OR**
- The school supplies SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and student's use.
- Sunscreen is applied in accordance with the manufacturer's directions (applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours, or more frequently if sweating or swimming).
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g., reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).

### ***Slide on sunglasses [if practical]***

- Where possible and practical students wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

### **Learning**

- Programs on sun protection are included in the curriculum for all year levels.
- Students are encouraged to be involved in initiatives to promote and model sun protection measures to the whole school community.
- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website/intranet, staff and parent meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and at student enrolment/new staff orientation.

### **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)**

- As part of OHS UV risk controls and role-modelling. Staff, families and visitors:
  - wear a sun protective hat, covering clothing and, if practical, sunglasses.
  - apply sunscreen; and
  - seek shade whenever possible.

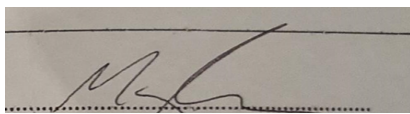

UV radiation exposure is considered as part of a school's risk management and assessment for all outdoor events and activities on and off-site e.g. UV radiation protection strategies (hats, clothing, shade, sunscreen) are included in school camp activities, excursions, sports days and interschool sports events.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- [Duty of Care](#)
- [Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004](#)
- [Education and Training Reform Act 2006: Sch.5 Reg. 1 \(1.2\)](#)
- DET Policy & Advisory Library [Sun protection guidelines](#) 2020
- Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) [Building Quality Standards Handbook \(BQSH\)](#): Section 5.1.3, 5.1.4 Shade Areas (May 2021)
- Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) [Guidelines to the Minimum Standards and Requirements for School Registration](#) - Care, safety and welfare of students (2020)
- DET Policy & Advisory Library [Outdoor activities and working outdoors](#) (2020)
- [Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework \(VEYLDF\)](#) (May 2016)
- Victorian Institute (VIT) [The Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#) - Principle 3.2
- [Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#) (AITSL) – Standard 4.4 and 7.2
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into [Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools – Final Report](#) (2007)
- [Australian Government Therapeutics Goods Administration \(TGA\) – Australian regulatory guidelines for sunscreens: 4. Labelling and advertising – directions for use of the product](#)
- [AS/NZS 4685.0:2017, Playground equipment and surfacing - Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation.6.2.1: General considerations, 6.3.9: Shade and sun protection, Appendix A: Shade and sun protection](#)

## EVALUATION AND RATIFICATION

This policy is will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or before in line with DET requirements or mandates. Amendments to this policy will be made in consultation with staff, students and the school community. The school council and staff will monitor and review the effectiveness of the SunSmart policy and revise the policy at least once every three years.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>UNIFORM, DRESS CODE and SUN SMART POLICY</b>
<b>BVPS Council President</b>	Signed: 
<b>BVPS Principal</b>	Signed: 
<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>August 2021</b>
<b>Ratified</b>	<b>16/ 11 /2021</b>

