

# Ringwood Secondary College

## Student Dress Code



### Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Ringwood Secondary College on (03) 9870 2002.

Ringwood Secondary College is committed to creating and maintaining a child safe and child-friendly organisation. The Child Safe Standards are compulsory minimum standards for all Victorian schools to ensure they are well prepared to keep children and young people safe and protect them from abuse. [Ministerial Order 1359](#) provides the framework for child safety in schools.

## Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Ringwood Secondary College'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 Ringwood Secondary College'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, belonging, inclusiveness and equality while encouraging students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Ringwood Secondary College's commitment to ensuring students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- reduce student competition based on clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

By enrolling at Ringwood Secondary College, all students are expected to comply with the Student Dress Code while traveling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities.

## Scope

The School Council has developed a dress code that we believe provides a range of choices for students, whilst remaining cost effective for families.

## Uniform and Appearance

The full list of Ringwood Secondary College's compulsory school uniform items is available at Appendix A to this policy.

## Purchase of Uniforms

All uniform items are available for purchase from PSW (Croydon) and online.

Unit 8A, 51 Lusher Road, Croydon 3136.

Phone: (03) 9768-0336. Website: <https://www.psw.com.au>

## **Support for families experiencing difficulty**

Please contact the College 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://stateschoolsrelief.org.au>

## **Implementation**

Ringwood Secondary College will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our College website. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

If a student has a legitimate reason to be wearing non-compliant uniform items, a note or email communication from a parent/carer is required to the Year Level Coordinator. In these instances, a short-term uniform pass may be issued.

Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to remove or change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school. These situations may incur consequences.

Measures taken by Ringwood Secondary College to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will be addressed in accordance with the Student Behavioural Expectations outlined in 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 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**

Ringwood Secondary College 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 College's Complaint Policy.

## Further Information and Resources

- Ringwood Secondary College [SunSmart Policy](#)
- Ringwood Secondary College [Complaints Policy](#)
- Ringwood Secondary College [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education and Training [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#)

## 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
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

## Policy status and review

Assistant principal is responsible for reviewing and updated the Student Dress Code at least every three years.

## Approval

<b>Policy last reviewed</b>	<b>June 2023</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	Policy and Education Committee School Council
<b>Endorsed by</b>	School Council
<b>Endorsed on</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> July 2023
<b>Next review date</b>	July 2026

## APPENDIX A: RINGWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE UNIFORM

A condition of enrolment at Ringwood Secondary College is that the correct uniform be worn by all students to and from the College. This applies where there are excursions unless permission for appropriate casual attire has been given. Students not in full uniform should bring a note signed from their parent/guardian and obtain a pass from their sub school prior to the start of the day. Failure to do so may incur a sanction.

### DAILY UNIFORM

College Summer Dress  
College Winter Skirt  
College tailored shorts / pants  
College shirt / blouse  
College jumper / V neck windcheater (shirt must be worn underneath)  
College soft shell bonded jacket  
White socks  
Black tights (only permissible with Winter skirt)  
All black polishable leather shoes (no boots)  
NOTE: Mixing of daily uniform with PE uniform is not permitted

### PE UNIFORM (can be worn for the entire day when a student has a timetabled practical PE lesson)

PE polo shirt with RSC logo  
Black PE shorts / trackpants with RSC logo  
Full legging with RSC logo  
Rugby jumper (optional and only to be worn for PE)  
White socks  
Track shoes  
Reversible brimmed sun hat

### OPTIONAL ITEMS

College tie (optional)  
Plain scarf (black or white)  
RSC beanie or plain black beanie (terms 2 and 3 only)  
RSC brimmed hat or plain black cap  
Undershirt (white only)

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

All items of uniform must be well presented and in good order  
Tattoos must be always covered  
Shoes and buckles must always be done up  
Hair colour must be in natural tones and tied back as required for safety reasons  
Earrings: small studs, sleepers or hoops. No spacers or large hoop earrings permitted  
One nose piercing permitted – clear or discreet stud, no sleepers. No other facial piercings permitted  
Facial hair must be neat and well-trimmed  
Jewellery must be minimal and removed as required for safety reasons

## APPENDIX B: EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE SHOES

Shoes must be always fastened

