



STU006 – PRIMARY SCHOOL DRESS CODE

POLICY CONTEXT

Willunga Waldorf School is a co-educational and inclusive school. The school's mission is to provide Steiner education from early childhood to year 12, based on the work of Rudolf Steiner. This education is driven by a deep understanding and respect for the developing and unfolding human being.

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides an agreed clothing standard for Primary School students (Years 1-7) who attend Willunga Waldorf School.

It applies to all Willunga Waldorf Primary School students.

POLICY STATEMENT

Our School provides a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment for work and play. Our dress code is an agreed clothing standard for students attending Willunga Waldorf School. It was developed through a consultation process with staff, parents and students in 2017 and is reviewed regularly.

The dress code is designed to:

- Respond to the different developmental needs of age groups from K to 12
- Support the health, safety and learning of students when involved in school activities
- Contribute to school pride, school identity in the community and preparation for future workplace expectations
- Foster a sense of belonging and school spirit
- Develop mutual respect amongst students by minimising visible evidence of social or economic differences
- Educate about social responsibility in consumer choice
- Provide for students regardless of gender identity, ethnicity, or religion
- Allow for individual expression within an agreed standard

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES/EXEMPTIONS

Authorisation from the Head of School is required for ALL exemptions to the dress code (e.g. where special circumstances may apply, such as a student's medical condition).

Any exemptions will be documented in writing on the affected student's file.

PROCEDURES/PRACTICES

1. WHOLE SCHOOL SPECIAL EVENTS DRESS CODE

At special events – including the Rose Ceremony, musical performances, festivals and graduation assemblies – all Kindergarten to Year 12 students are expected to wear plain, solid-coloured tops free from logos, pictures, advertising and writing.

2. ORDINARY SCHOOL DAY

The colours found in living nature are recognised as supportive of healthy child development at Willunga Waldorf School. Natural fabrics in various colours without excessive decoration support the School ethos.

HATS

- All children need broad-brimmed or bucket hats without logos.
- Hats are to be worn outside only.
- A “No hat, no play” policy applies during sun protection times, typically from early August to the end of April.

CLOTHING

- Clothing must cover students from neck to mid-thigh, with or without a collar.
- Midriff and back (kidney area) must be covered.
- Minimum sleeve length must cover shoulders.

SHOES

- To provide for safe, active play, movement and sport, shoes must be closed in with a heel no greater than 3 cm.
- In warmer months, strong sandals with ankle straps are permissible.
- Footwear must be appropriate for Bothmer, PE and Tech in safety and design.

3. ITEMS NOT ALLOWED

The following items fall outside of the Primary School Dress Code:

- Advertisements, logos, brands and writing larger than a fist
- Predominantly black clothing
- Make-up, nail polish and hair dye
- Facial or multiple ear piercings
- Thongs, Ugg boots, heels, clogs (including Crocs worn in “sports mode”)
- Dangling or hoop earrings and jewellery, spacer earrings, large necklaces and large rings
- Temporary and other tattoos (teacher discretion applies to henna designs at festival times)
- Singlets, tank tops or sleeves that expose shoulders
- See-through materials
- Hair that falls across the face
- Uncovered undergarments
- Smartwatches

4. PROCEDURES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

Willunga Waldorf School community supports the following consequences for the Primary School Dress Code breaches. One or more of these consequences may be used by Primary School staff:

- Students will be asked to remove make-up, nail polish, temporary tattoos, inappropriate jewellery or smartwatches. Items are to be left in bags and will be confiscated by the teacher if taken out.
- Students may be asked to turn clothing inside out or given an approved substitute clothing for the day.
- Parents may be contacted to bring substitute clothing for the day if required.
- Where age-appropriate, students may be asked to research particular clothing choices.
- Providing verbal and/or written communication to parents/guardians of students who do not meet dress code requirements.
- Meetings with parents and guardians, if necessary, to discuss and resolve a dress code breach.
- Persistent infringement or refusal to comply for safety reasons may result in suspension.

5. FINAL DECISION

Where any doubt exists as to whether a student's clothing article falls outside of the dress code, the Primary School Faculty Leader will be the final arbiter, and parents may be notified of the decision as required.

RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS

Related School Policies, Procedures and Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STU001 – Child Safe Environments Policy • STU008 – Mobile Devices Policy • STU003 – Personal Responsibility Policy (Behaviour Education and Support) • WHS008 – Sun Safe Policy • OE004 – Camps and Excursion Policy
Related Legislation and Regulatory Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Conventions of the Rights of the Child • National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (2019) • Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 • Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (SA) • Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Act 2011 • Australian Student Wellbeing Framework
Cross-Sector Guidelines (SA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS – National Principles for Child Safe Organisations • Protective Practices for staff in their interactions with children and young people

VARIATION AND REVIEW

The School reserves the right to vary, replace or terminate this policy from time to time. Unless altered earlier, this policy will be reviewed every three (3) years.

Responsible Person	Primary School Faculty Leader
Policy Approver	Head of School



Version	1.2		
Publication Date	2018 (version 1.0) 2019 (version 1.1) 2023 (version 1.2)	Effective Date:	2018 2019 Nov 2023
Last Review Date	June 2026		
Next Review Date	June 2029		
Revision Record	<p>Antje Guenther (HR), June 2023 – reviewed and accepted by Primary School Faculty 14 November 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reformatted - Added: Policy Context, Purpose and Scope, Related Policies, Procedures and Documents, Variation and Review - Added exemptions to be recorded on student file - Added persistent infringement may result in suspension - Changed review period from annually to three yearly - Minor language updates to increase clarity <p>July 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changed category to Student-specific Policies (STU) <p>June 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removed "gender" from policy context - Added smartwatches as prohibited items and to breaches section - Changed timeframe for "No hat, no play" policy to align with school Skin Protection Policy 		