

Bentleigh Secondary College

Uniform Policy

Purpose

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Bentleigh 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 Bentleigh 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 and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Bentleigh Secondary College'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.

Policy

Term 1 and 4:

OPTION 1

- College dress (must be the same length as the College uniform shorts with plain white socks)

OR

OPTION 2

- College blue navy shorts, trousers or slacks (PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY)
- White cotton College shirt (PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY)
- Navy or black belts only

ALL STUDENTS

- College blue woollen pullover, white socks, black polishable lace-up leather school shoes and College blazer

Term 2 and 3:

OPTION 1

- College winter skirt (must be the same length as College uniform shorts with opaque black tights or black socks)
- White cotton College shirt (PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY)

OR

OPTION 2

- College navy blue trousers, shorts or slacks (PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY)
- White cotton College shirt (PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY)
- Navy or black belts only

ALL STUDENTS:

- College blue woollen pullover, black socks, black polishable lace-up leather school shoes and College blazer
- College tie (to be worn during Term 2 and 3 - PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY)
- Navy scarf and beanie with College logo ONLY (optional)

Please refer to the Bentleigh Secondary College [uniform page on our website](#).

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BSC Sports Uniform:

The Sports Uniform cannot be worn to and from school. All students must bring their uniform to change into for their PE classes (Exception: Year 7 and Year 8 students may wear their Sport Uniform on their interschool sport days)

- PE micromesh panel polo
- PE microfibre trackpants
- PE Rugby Jumper
- PE Soft Shell Jacket
- PE Microfibre Shorts
- PE mesh cap

General appearance:

While at school, travelling to or from school or participating in school activities, Bentleigh Secondary College students must comply with the following:

- Uniforms must be clean and in good condition
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Students must maintain good personal hygiene habits
- Ties need to be worn neatly fastened to collar.
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.
- Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back for student safety.
- Jewellery should not be obvious or excessive; earrings need to be small and unobtrusive sleepers/studs; jewellery needs to be removed/covered when playing active sport.
- Cosmetics and make-up should not be obvious/excessive and must be fit for purpose.
- Shoes must be cleaned and polished. Black 'runner/sneaker' type shoes are not considered appropriate as school shoes with uniform Option 1 or Option 2.
- The College blazer is to be worn to and from school and on school event days. The College blazer is to be the outermost layer for warmth rather than the College blue woollen pullover. On extreme hot weather days blazers are not required to be worn.
- The College backpack (PSW with Bentleigh Secondary College Logo ONLY) is the required school bag.

Sun safety:

In all Physical Education activities, school uniform hats must be worn outside from mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) 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 from PSW (1 Age Street, Cheltenham), at school from the recycle Uniform Shop, or parents may order it directly from <https://www.psw.com.au/schools/bentleigh-secondary-college.html>

The Bentleigh uniform items have a specific colour (ink blue) and pattern (e.g. patterned skirts and tunics). Items with a unique colour, fabric or pattern are not 'branded' and these items are referred to as 'customised' in the department's student dress code policy and can therefore continue to be included as an item in the Bentleigh student uniform.

Bentleigh Secondary College also operates a Recycle uniform store for parents. Contact the Head of Year Level for the opening hours.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Head of Year Level 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/>

Implementation

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

Students are not permitted to do PE unless in proper uniform. Students representing the College in sports teams should be properly attired in transit – either in PE or College uniform

Students must bring a parent note when they are out of uniform and take this to their Head of Year Level to get a uniform pass. Students repeatedly out of uniform will receive a Friday afterschool detention. Students wearing non-compliant uniform items may be asked to change into a compliant item of clothing provided by the school.

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, a parent conference will be required. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Bentleigh Secondary College 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 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 Uniform Policy

Bentleigh Secondary College welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this Uniform Policy. If you have a concern or complaint about the Student Dress Code, further information about raising a concern

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or complaint is available in our school's *Parent Complaint Policy*, available via the college website.

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our college 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
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

Further Information and Resources

- Bentleigh Secondary College Sunsmart Policy
- Bentleigh Secondary College Parent Complaint Policy
- Bentleigh 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](#).

Policy Review and Approval

Policy last reviewed	June 2025
Ratified by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	