



Student Dress Code Policy 2025 – 2029

GEELONG
HIGH SCHOOL

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

This Policy has been reviewed and endorsed by the School Council:	August 2025
This Policies next review and endorsement is due in four years:	2029



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Geelong High School on 03 5225 4100 or geelong.hs@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Geelong High'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 Geelong High 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:

- promote a sense of identity and pride, cohesion and good order in the school
- allow all students to feel equal
- prevent bullying and competition on the basis of clothing
- ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community
- strengthen the spirit of community within the school
- enhance individual student safety and group security
- ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- prepare students for the expectations of workplaces
- encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

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.

When representing the school, students are expected to comply with this Student Dress Code and may be provided with representative clothing for the occasion.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Students can wear any uniform item regardless of gender.

General appearance

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

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms should be clearly marked with the owner's name
- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform, provided these undergarments are completely hidden

Health and safety

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back for student safety in science/ technology subjects.

Jewellery, nails, hair accessories and similar items that interfere with students' ability to engage with school activities safely and fully are not permitted.

School approved Hats / Beanie are not to be worn inside.

- All jewellery worn must be gold/silver, unobtrusive and discreet.
- Students may only wear a maximum of two small sleepers/studs per ear, one necklace, one watch(not a smart watch), one ring and/or one bangle. One nose piercing with a small clear plastic stud is permitted. Other facial piercings are not permitted. Facial piercings and associated jewellery are not permitted. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Staff may require the removal of jewellery for safety purposes.

A minimal amount of makeup is acceptable.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

The uniform is only available from PSW (164 Malop Street, Geelong)

Second-hand uniform may be bought and sold through Second Hand School Specialists. Their details are as follows: 4 Beauford Ave Bell Post Hill . Trading hours: Tuesday to Friday 3.30pm - 5pm, , Saturday 10am – 1.00pm - Mobile 0422 401 458

Permitted non-branded uniform items can also be purchased from department stores.

The School Council has consulted with the school community and worked to ensure the student uniform is affordable, including reviewing costs with suppliers. However, if you are facing difficulty meeting uniform costs the [Help with school costs and fees](#) page provides advice on support offered by the Victorian Government. If your child is starting prep or year 7 and is eligible to receive support via the [Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund](#), you may be eligible to access the Affordable School Uniform program through [State Schools' Relief](#).

Please contact the principal or to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

IMPLEMENTATION

Geelong High School will ensure that this Student Dress Code and uniform item list is communicated to all families and students through our website and newsletters We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

It will only be on exceptional occasions that students will be out of uniform. When out of uniform, students must report to the House Office on arrival at school with a note from their parent/carer, explaining the reason for being out of uniform. The House Office will then issue a Uniform Pass if the explanation is reasonable. Students arriving at class without a Uniform Pass will be issued with an after school detention

Measures taken by Geelong High School 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 acknowledge that the enforcement of this Student Dress Code may impact students differently.

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 the code:
 - prevents students from being able to attend school or participate in school activities on the same terms as other students because of the [personal characteristics referred to in human rights and anti-discrimination requirements](#)
 - offends a religious belief held by the student or parents/carers
 - prevents students from complying with a requirement of their religious, ethnic or cultural background
- the student has a particular disability or health condition that requires a departure from the dress code
- the student or the parents/carers can demonstrate financial 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
- guarantee that issues of a personal nature revealed to substantiate the request will be strictly confidential
- 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, including providing advice about support with meeting uniform costs. If an exemption is not allowed, then written reasons will be provided to the student and/or their parents/carers.

CONCERNS ABOUT THIS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Geelong High 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 complaint is available in our school's *Complaint Policy*, available on the school website

COMMUNICATION

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

- available publicly on our school's website
- other online parent/carers/student communication method
- 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.

Views on our student dress code have been invited from the whole school community including:

- parent/carers
- teachers and other school staff
- students

The school community consultation invited feedback about uniform cost and affordability. This feedback has been recorded, carefully considered and incorporated into the student dress code policy where appropriate.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Geelong High School Sun Protection Policy
- Geelong High School Complaint Policy
- Geelong High School Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Geelong High School Inclusion and Diversity Policy
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

For future reviews of this Student Dress Code, we will consult with our school community through the following mechanisms:

- letters, emails and social media messages to parents/carers
- surveys
- information in newsletters
- public meetings
- student meetings
- focus groups
- information on our website

The community will be given advance notice of the consultation process and timelines. The consultation will be open for at least 2 weeks.

Consultation materials will be translated into community languages.

