



BALGOWNIE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Living & Learning

PO Box 192, Fairy Meadow 2519

Tel: (02) 4284 4245 Fax: (02) 4284 3462

E-mail: balgownie-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Aloma Stewart

School Uniform Policy

Reviewed August 2013 in consultation with students, staff and parents.

The Department of Education and Communities supports the wearing of school uniforms by students and the upholding of high standards of dress by students and staff. The department recognises that NSW has a long history of school uniforms or dress codes being decided by the local school community.

This policy requires schools to review and document school uniform or dress code requirements in consultation with their communities and to develop strategies for the wearing of school uniforms.

1. A school uniform consists of a limited range of clothing, including footwear and headwear. It identifies students as belonging to a particular school. Schools usually expect students to wear the uniform during school hours, while travelling to and from school, and when engaged in school activities out of school hours.
2. Careful selection of a school uniform can contribute to the health and safety of students when engaged in school activities. A school uniform should reflect school community standards and expectations. It should be developed in consultation with and agreed upon by the school community. It should be based on a strong student and parent voice. The whole school community has a role to play in encouraging the meeting of these standards.
3. Decisions about school uniforms should be consistent with work health and safety, anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation. Aspects of the uniform related to safety, eg. safe footwear, eye protection and hats, will need to be enforced as appropriate.
4. Uniform policy must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, including the Parents and Citizens' Association. The consultation will be conducted in a manner appropriate to each school and be based on participatory decision-making principles. The school's uniform policy and uniform requirements should be formally endorsed by the school community before implementation. *At Balgownie Public School, consultation occurs through the Student Leaders, at staff meetings, at a published P and C meeting, as well as other times as requested.*
5. A school's uniform policy should take into account the diverse nature of the student population in the school and not disadvantage any student. Economic, personal, social and cultural factors affecting students and their families must be considered when deciding on items of uniform. Other considerations, such as body shape or religious requirements should be taken into account in making a final decision on the design and fabric of school uniforms.
6. The school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements should be reviewed at least every five years and amended where necessary. Groups within the school community may also seek a review when circumstances change significantly or issues arise.

Implementing school uniform requirements

1. Positive reinforcement and encouraging responsible behaviour are the preferred approaches to ensuring students wear the school uniform.



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2. Everyone has a role in setting the standards for the school. Teachers and other school staff model appropriate standards for students. They should dress in a professional manner.
3. Suspension or expulsion solely for non-compliance with uniform requirements is not to occur. Student enrolment cannot be contingent upon adherence to school uniform policy.
4. Students should not be disadvantaged where required uniform items are not available because of circumstances beyond their control.
5. Conscientious objections by parents to the wearing of school uniform should be respected.
6. Response to students who do not wear uniform must be appropriate. They should be clarified, agreed upon by the school community and documented. Response must be fair and consistent. They must not prevent students from continued participation in essential curriculum activities except where exclusion is necessary for reasons of safety. In this situation, alternative educational activities must be provided.
7. *Implementation at Balgownie Public School.*
 - a. *Promotion of uniform occurs through newsletters, promotion through our PBS system (eg respect, responsibility, real learning) informal conversations with individuals and groups of students, purchasing uniforms for those with financial difficulty. Details of uniform are clarified with students and families.*
 - b. *For those students who do not comply with uniforms, discussion with student, with families and letter to families.*

Arrangements with clothing suppliers

1. Arrangements for the supply of uniforms with individual firms, where selected firms receive preference in the placement of orders or publicly, can only be entered into following public tendering.
2. Any change in school uniform has significance not only for students and their parents or carers but also for those agencies that supply school uniforms.
3. Any school which, after a process of consultation with students, teachers and parents or carers, proposes a change in school uniform should announce its decision early in the school year preceding the change. All parents or carers and, as far as is practicable, all retailers concerned must be notified. Some schools may need to allow up to three years for change, to enable school uniform shops and others with significant stocks of the uniform to be replaced to prepare.

Responsibilities and delegations

1. It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure that the school uniform policy is developed and reviewed collaboratively with the school community. Principals must provide parents or carers with the school's uniform policy and school uniform requirements.
2. When a school community agrees on a school uniform, the principal oversees the shared responsibility for ensuring that students are encouraged to wear school uniforms that meet agreed community standards and adhere to legislative requirements.



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Uniform requirements

Girls Uniform	Boys Uniform
<p>SUMMER UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black and white check dress or black culottes • white polo shirt with school crest • short white ankle socks • black shoes • black and white hair accessories only • black school hat 	<p>SUMMER UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black shorts • white polo shirt with school crest • Short white ankle socks • black shoes • black school hat
<p>WINTER UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dark navy/bottle green tartan pinafore with a long sleeved white shirt or white skivvy OR • black pants with a short/long sleeved white polo shirt with school crest • black tights or short white ankle socks • black shoes • black and white hair accessories only • black school hat • school jacket or jumper with school crest 	<p>WINTER UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black pants with a short/long sleeved white polo shirt with school crest • short white ankle socks • black shoes • black school hat/cap • school jacket or jumper with school crest
<p>SPORT UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black culottes, shorts or black tracksuit • school sports polo shirt • short white ankle socks • joggers- any colour • black school 	<p>SPORT UNIFORM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • black shorts or black tracksuit • school sports polo shirt • short white ankle socks • joggers- any colour • black school hat
<p>Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black shorts, trousers or tracksuit pants worn by boys and girls should not have any logos or any colour other than black. That includes white piping or stripes. No leggings are to be worn on their own. • No ¾ pants under dresses or on their own. • Jumpers and jackets are to be Balgownie School jumpers only. • All hats are to be Balgownie School hats only. • Caps and hats are permitted for remainder of 2013 and 2014. 2014 is a year of transition with caps being phased out. In 2015, all students will be required to wear a 'Sun safe' Balgownie Public School broad brim or bucket hat. No beanies as they do not offer sun protection. • Shoes are to be plain black without coloured laces or any colour other than black. Boots or high tops are not part of our school uniform. Sports shoes may be worn on Friday. It is recommended that canvas shoes are not worn as they provide limited support for growing feet. Shoes should have non slippery soles as they are worn for outdoor activities. • Socks to be visible above shoes. • Hair accessories – black and white only • Minimal jewellery only to be worn eg small studs, watch etc. Safety of students is the focus. eg no large earrings. Jewellery worn at own risk. • Sun glasses- optional. Must be black or white and meet Australian Standard 1067:2003. • No makeup • Performance uniform is defined by the performance director. • PLEASE PUT STUDENT'S NAME ON ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING. 	