



Elwood College Uniform Policy

1. Purpose

The Elwood College uniform policy has been developed by the Elwood College School Council in accordance with DET policy and guidelines on dress code for students in Victorian State Government Schools.

The Elwood College student uniform is supported by the Elwood College community and the uniform policy has been approved and adopted by School Council because it:

- Is a symbol of pride in our school
- Promotes a sense of belonging
- Provides a unified school identity
- Promotes a strong, positive public image throughout the wider community
- Enables students to participate in school activities in an equitable, comfortable and safe manner
- Promotes a safe and inclusive school environment
- Reflects our core values of Respect, Integrity, Care and Compassion

2. Responsibilities

Elwood College strives to build positive relationships, value differences, encourage life-long learning and contribute to the community. This is a shared responsibility between students, parents and school.

It is compulsory for all Elwood College students in Years 7-12 to wear the uniform. The school uniform when worn correctly, connects students with our school and our community.

Students and Parents

Students and their parents/carers have responsibility to ensure that students wear the correct uniform for all classes, college activities, and to and from school.

Parent and student support and in monitoring uniform appearance supports the College staff in ensuring students are well presented, safe, ready to learn and participate.

Principal and Staff

The Elwood College principal, assistant principals and teachers have responsibility to monitor that the correct uniform is being worn by students for all classes, college activities, and to and from school and, to take appropriate action, where it is not.

3. The Daily Uniform

The uniform has been designed to have a core base with a 'wardrobe' of additional items that students can choose to purchase and wear depending on the weather, comfortability etc. with no specified summer or winter items. Students are able to choose the items that best suit their needs on any given day and worn according to the policy.

The daily uniform top outer layer must consist of either a shirt (short or long sleeve), a jumper, a blazer or any combination of the three. The uniform design allows for layering to extra warmth during the colder months. No jackets, hoodies or non-approved school jumpers should be worn at any time. A plain white t-shirt (with no logos or designs) may be worn for additional warmth underneath the school shirt.

The school blazer and tie may be worn at any time but only in the manner described and with a short or long sleeve shirt or school dress. School approved pins may be worn on the school blazer; no other pins or decorations should be worn on the Elwood College uniform.

Earrings, jewellery and hair must be appropriate for the school environment and reflect Occupational Health Standards. E.g., Long hair must be tied back at all times; earrings should be sleepers or studs and nails trimmed. Light make-up is permitted.

School shoes should be black leather. Lace-ups, T-bars, sports soles are appropriate, so long as they are solid black, including laces. Shoes must be closed toe and not canvass. Socks may be grey, white or navy and can be solid colours only, with no logos or designs.

Students playing sport at recess and lunch may change into sport shoes or must have non-marking soles.

4. PE and Sport Uniform

The PE uniform is compulsory and consists of the College sports top and College shorts with logo. Additional optional items include College tracksuit pants, College rugby top and plain navy cap or hat (strongly encouraged).

Shoes for PE and Sports are not prescribed, but must suitable for physical activity and playing sport. All shoes worn on sports surfaces must be non-marking and have low profile soles (eg. no spikes, deep tread, or similar).

5. Exemptions

Exemptions from complying with the uniform requirements may be granted if one or more aspects of the code:

- Prevent compliance with a religious belief
- Prevent students with disabilities from being able to participate in school
- Have a detrimental effect on a health condition

A request for an exemption or modification may be made by letter submitted to the Principal, who has the capacity to grant an exemption or refer the matter to the College council.

6. Changes to the Uniform

Purchase of the correct uniform can be a significant but cost effective, up-front investment providing the uniform does not change regularly or substantially.

For this reason, requests for changes to the uniform will generally not be considered unless they relate to issues of equity, health or safety.

Request for change process

Requests for changes to the school uniform must be made in writing to the Principal or delegate.

The Elwood College Principal or delegate will monitor and assess requests for changes or modifications to the uniform in an ongoing way.

Assessment of requests will involve consultation with students and/or parents.

Requests for changes will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year, but assessment of the requests will only occur once a year between June and August to enable any approved changes to be incorporated into the uniform for the following year.

If a minor addition or modification to the adopted uniform is considered appropriate on the basis of equity, health or safety and providing it does not substantially change the overall look or intent of the uniform, the principal may approve the change.

The principal will present the approved change to school council for endorsement and inclusion as part of the uniform guidelines.

Requests for significant additions or modifications to the adopted uniform that do not relate to issues of equity, health or safety would:

- Only be acted on if there was substantial evidence of need for change that was approved and endorsed by School Council and,
- Require a comprehensive student, parent, staff and community consultation process to be undertaken to determine the nature of changes required and recommended to be implemented.

7. Uniform Guidelines

Details of all uniform items and how they should be worn are contained in the uniform guidelines.