STUDENT DRESS CODE POLICY 2026

Help for non-English speakers
If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the General Office.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Vermont 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 Vermont 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:

- represent our shared identity, commitment to learning, and pride in our school's history of academic and extra-curricular success
- foster pride, cohesion, and belonging, reinforcing the values that underpin our school community – Integrity, Respect and Excellence
- support Vermont 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

UNIFORM STANDARDS & SUPPORT

Students are expected to wear the uniform with pride and meet the standards of their chosen option. Where individual circumstances affect compliance, students will be referred to Wellbeing or Disability Inclusion staff for support, acknowledging that equity and inclusion are priorities.

The School Council has considered affordability in the development of this dress code. 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 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 (ASU) program.

Please contact the General Office to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Students may select to wear **either** the Academic or Sport uniform. Mixing items across the Academic and Sport uniforms is **not permitted**.

At times the school will require students to wear a specific uniform, such as the Sport uniform for Physical Education or the Academic uniform on school photo days.

On the rare occasions when students have Physical Education on a day they have been requested to wear Academic Uniform, they will need to change into the Sport Uniform at school.

Academic Uniform

Core items include:

- Blazer
- Rugby jumper
- Softshell jacket
- Knit jumper/pullover
- White shirt (long or short sleeve)
- Blue or grey trousers (slacks)
- Blue or grey shorts (formal)
- VSC dress
- VSC skirt
- White or black socks
- Black leather shoes that take polish

Students must wear a base layer (shirt/dress) beneath knit jumper/pullover, rugby jumper, softshell jacket, or blazer. Students may combine these items according to season and comfort, provided the overall presentation is neat and consistent with academic uniform standards.

Sport Uniform

Core items include:

- Blue VSC polo shirt
- Quarter zip jumper
- Rugby jumper
- Blue shorts
- Blue tracksuit pants with a tapered leg, or elasticised cuff only*
- White or black socks
- Sports shoes
- House T-shirt is optional and to be worn for House activities only, not during PE classes

*Excessively long or loose tracksuit pants are not permitted to reduce risk of trips, slips and falls.

Students may combine these items according to season and comfort, provided the overall presentation is neat.

Optional items

- All accessories such as scarves, headbands, beanies etc should be in plain navy or white only.

Please refer to the uniform supplier website for the current Uniform List.

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 for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden

HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is recommended that shoulder length or longer hair is tied back to help restrict the spread of lice and for student safety.

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

Students who wear braids or locs may wear them loose, except for applied technology and science classes where it is recommended that hair is tied back for safety purposes.

School uniform hats should 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.

Shoes must be in good repair and must be worn correctly.

PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from Bob Stewart in store, or parents may order it directly online from www.bobstewart.com.au

Vermont Secondary College's Community Association also operates a second-hand uniform shop once a term for parents. Details are published in the newsletter and Compass.

IMPLEMENTATION

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

If a student is out of school uniform or otherwise breaches the Student Dress Code on a recurring basis, the House Team will follow up with students and families to support compliance. Measures taken by Vermont Secondary College to address concerns about student non-compliance with the Student Dress Code will also be addressed in accordance with our Student Behaviour Policy (available on Compass via School Documents).

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that there might be instances where the enforcement of this dress code could impact students differently.

Students and their parents or carers may apply either in writing, email or in person to the House Team 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 financial hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the House Team 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 House Team 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 STUDENT DRESS CODE

Vermont Secondary College 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 Parent Complaint Policy, available here.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed in student forums
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Vermont Secondary College Parent Complaint Policy
- Vermont 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	May 2026
Consultation	Surveys in 2025, and focus groups of students/families in 2025
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	May 2030

BOB STEWART

Our family serving you since 1925

VERMONT SECONDARY COLLEGE
UNIFORM LIST 2026

ACADEMIC UNIFORM

Blazer

Softshell Jacket Unisex

Softshell Jacket Tailored

Pullover

Rugby Top

Dress

Blouse Short Sleeve

Shirt Short Sleeve

Tailored Shorts Navy

Senior Shorts Navy

Skirt

Blouse Long Sleeve

Shirt Long Sleeve

Tailored Pants Navy

Trousers Grey Melange

White Crew Sock 2 pkt

Black Crew Sock 3 pkt

Black Tights

Black Knee High Socks

Tie

School Backpack Navy

Sports Cap

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UNIFORM LIST 2026

SPORT UNIFORM

Softshell Jacket Unisex

Softshell Jacket Tailored

Quarter Zip Jumper

Rugby Jumper

Sports Polo

Sports Shorts Navy Stretch Microfibre, two zip pockets

Sports Shorts with inner Navy Stretch Microfibre, shaped hem, 1 zip pocket

Trackpants Navy Stretch Microfibre

House T-Shirt

Sports Sock 2 pkt

Sports Cap

GUIDELINES

- *VSC has no designated summer or winter uniform. Mixing uniform items across the Academic and Sport uniform is not permitted. Students and parents are expected to manage the choices offered in a responsible and appropriate manner within the guidelines.*
- *Please see VSC Student Dress Code Policy on the Vermont Secondary College website - www.vermontsc.vic.edu.au*

www.bobstewart.com.au