

WOMBAT WHISPER



Honesty Everyone matters Always do your best Respect Teamwork

Hello to all our Families,

Welcome to the 2023 school year. It was clear to see from my wanderings of the classrooms this week that the students enjoyed their summer breaks, with many stories of camping trips, beach holidays, sleeping in and catching up with family and friends.

A special welcome to new families to Kinglake West Primary School. This of course includes of Prep families who started today – many of whom have already formed a relationship with the school through older siblings – and families who are just enrolling this year.

It has been a great start to the school year, with a positive tone throughout all the classrooms and the school yard.

We look forward to working together this year and continuing to support your children in the best possible way.

Just a quick update on assemblies. Assemblies will run Monday and Friday afternoons from 3:15pm beginning week 3 (Monday 6th February). The change to afternoon assemblies is to optimise the most valuable learning time in the mornings for students.

COMMUNICATION

XUNO is our main form of communication. We strongly encourage all families to download the app and make themselves familiar with the platform. Not only is it where you will receive newsletters and important updates, all family payments and excursions/incursion/camps permissions and payments are to be made via XUNO. Families are able to create their own payment plans on XUNO to suit their individual circumstances as needed.

Teacher communication will either come in the form of a phone call or message via XUNO. If you need to contact your child's classroom teacher, the most effective way is via XUNO message.

If you need support, please pop in to the office or call to request a 'How to' guide.

Mikayla Boxhall runs our closed school Facebook page. She will post updates of what is happening at school and reminders throughout the year. If you haven't already joined we encourage you to do so.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

A reminder that all students are to come to school in **FULL** school uniform. This helps us all to represent the HEART values and show pride in wearing the Kinglake West Primary logo. An updated Student Dress Code Policy was passed through School Council last year. We ask parents to read through the policy to ensure that students are wearing correct uniform. There will be a transition period through Terms 1 and 2 to ensure families have time to have the correct uniform. We have a small amount of second hand uniform available at the office to purchase for a minimal cost. If you require support in purchasing uniform, please

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 9th February

Welcome BBQ

Tuesday 21st February

Pancake Day

**Monday 6th March –
Tuesday 7th March**

Life Ed Van

Monday 13th March

Labor Day Public Holiday

Thursday 6th April

End of Term 1

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speak to myself or the office as there are supports available including State School Relief and through Tracey, our school Chaplain.

Please note – School photos will be at the beginning of Term 2 and all students are expected to be in FULL school uniform, including a top with the school logo and correct school bottoms. Netball skirts, leggings and colourful socks are not part of the school uniform.

For ordering uniform online please go to the following website for more details:

Website: <https://www.spartanss.com.au/>

CSEF – Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you have a valid means-tested concession card such as a Veterans Affairs Gold Card, Centrelink Health Care Card or a Pensioner Concession Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible.

Payment amounts this year are \$125 per eligible student. Payments are made direct to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions and sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

If you received CSEF last year, you will need to apply again this year. If you would like to apply, please bring your valid means-tested concession card to the school office and complete an application form.

If you would like further information, please contact the office on 5786 5262.

ATTENDANCE

Missing school can have a major impact on a child's future – a student missing one day a fortnight will miss four full weeks by the end of the year. By Year 10 they will have missed more than a year of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind and can affect their educational outcomes. Every day counts and coming to school every day is vital.

Below are the school bell times.

8:50am - Bag Bell

9:00am – Start of Day

9:00am – 11:00am - Session 1&2

11:00am – 11:30am - Recess

11:30am – 1:20pm - Session 3&4

1:20pm – 1:30pm - Lunch eating time inside

1:30pm-2:30pm – Lunch Break

2:30pm – 3:30pm – Session 5

3:30pm – End of Day dismissal

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS 	
MINUTES LATE	IMPACT ON ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
5 MINUTES A DAY	3.4 DAYS 98.4% ATTENDANCE
10 MINUTES A DAY	6.9 DAYS 97.6% ATTENDANCE
15 MINUTES A DAY	10.3 DAYS 94.6% ATTENDANCE
20 MINUTES A DAY	13.8 DAYS 92.9% ATTENDANCE
30 MINUTES A DAY	20.7 DAYS 89.2% ATTENDANCE

CANTEEN

Canteen will be up and running from Friday 10th February.

Please keep an eye out for an updated menu and information on how to order.

When ordering using the QKR! App, please ensure you order RECESS and LUNCH separately, otherwise the children will get their whole order at lunch. We strongly recommend purchasing an insulated lunch bag as this helps to keep the food at the appropriate temperature and reduces waste. These can be purchased from the office for \$12.50.

PAW – Parents at West

We are seeking members of the school community to join our PARENTS AT WEST group. Currently, the role of PAW is to promote a sense of community spirit within the school through organising PAW meetings and catch ups with parents/grandparents and carers. This provides an opportunity for parents to connect, make friends and learn more about what is happening at KWPS. PAW contributes to events such as:

- Organising and purchasing stock for Mother's Day and Father's Day stall and running the stalls on the day
- Supporting the school with non profit events
- Organising raffles and assisting with school fundraising events
- Assisting with Teacher Appreciation Day
- Liaising with the Principal to discuss improvements and feedback from the parent community.

If you are interested in joining PAW, please contact the school office for more information. Without the support of our families, many events for our students just would not be possible.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

NAPLAN 2023 will be held during weeks 8 & 9 of Term 1, Wednesday 15th March to Monday 27th March.

If you are wanting to discuss any concerns with NAPLAN in regards to your child, please feel free to come and speak with me as soon as possible. I am happy to discuss valid exemptions to the testing and will need to process these requests according to the NAPLAN timetable.

OSHC

Our school has partnered with an independent provider called TheirCare to provide exceptional Outside School Hours Care services for our school community!

TheirCare provides a stimulating and safe environment for all children. During sessions, children develop life-skills, friendships, confidence, and creativity through play-based programs.

Families wishing to use this service can visit the TheirCare website to enrol and book:

www.theircare.com.au. Families are eligible for a Government Rebate called the Child Care Subsidy which can reduce the cost per session by up to 85%.

More information can be obtained by contacting TheirCare Support Team on 1300 072 410.

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SCHOOL LEADERS

2023 Kinglake West Primary School - School Leaders

School Captains

Kayla De Iulio and Zander Ray

Vice Captains

Indie Holder and Emmett O'Loughlin

House Captains

Eagles

Hudson Nauta and Kai Ottosen

Kangaroos

Arta Buljukbashi and Harry Heal

Possums

Misha Hutchins and Isla Croft

Wombats

Will Old and Conor Sullivan

Sustainability Leaders

Emily Galpin and Juliet McArdle

The process for selecting SRC members is currently underway. The successful students will be announced once the process has concluded.

Take Care,
Courtney Smith
Acting Principal

Kinglake West Primary School Student Dress Code



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Courtney Smith, 5786 5262.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Kinglake West Primary School'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 Kinglake West Primary 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:

- foster a sense of community and belonging and encourages students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Kinglake West Primary School'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.






UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

Kinglake West Primary School's compulsory school uniform items are as follows:

- Leggings are not a permitted school uniform item
- Netball skirts are not a permitted school uniform item

	<p>SHORT SLEEVED POLO Polo t-shirt with embroidered school logo. -Can be worn with navy pants, navy shorts, navy skirt, navy skorts, or navy tunic/winter dress. -Not to be worn over the summer dress or netball skirts.</p>
	<p>LONG SLEEVED POLO Polo long sleeve with embroidered school logo. -Can be worn with navy pants, navy shorts, navy skirt, navy skorts, or navy tunic/winter dress. -Not to be worn over the summer dress or netball skirts.</p>
	<p>HOODED JUMPER Navy hooded jumper with embroidered school logo. -Can be worn over any school uniform item.</p>
	<p>BOMBER JACKET Navy button up jacket with embroidered school logo. -Can be worn over any school uniform item.</p>
	<p>POLAR FLEECE JACKET Navy zip up jacket with zip pockets and embroidered school logo. -Can be worn over any school uniform item.</p>
	<p>NAVY SKORT Plain navy skort -To be worn with long or short sleeved polo -Can be worn with navy tights underneath -Not to be worn with navy leggings underneath (leggings are not a permitted uniform item) -Netball skirts are not a permitted school uniform item -Can be generic brand in navy -Can be worn all year.</p>

	<p>NAVY SHORTS Plain navy shorts with or without pockets -To be worn with long or short sleeved polo -Can be generic brand in navy -Must be appropriate length -Can be worn all year.</p>
	<p>NAVY TRACKSUIT PANTS Plain navy tracksuit pants with or without pockets -To be worn with long or short sleeved polo -Can be generic brand in navy -Can be worn all year.</p>
	<p>NAVY GIRLS PONTE/LEISURE PANTS Navy pants with elastic waist and pockets -To be worn with long or short sleeved polo -Can be worn all year. -Leggings are not a permitted uniform item</p>
	<p>SUMMER DRESS Navy and white check dress. -To be worn with full navy briefs, bike shorts or winter tights underneath -Not to be worn with leggings or pants underneath (leggings are not a permitted uniform item) -Not to be worn with long or short sleeved polo tops underneath or over the top -Can be generic brand -Can be worn all year.</p>
	<p>WINTER DRESS/TUNIC Plain navy winter dress with detachable top. -Can be worn with navy tights, navy or white skivvy or the long/short sleeved polo tops -Not to be worn with leggings or pants underneath (leggings are not a permitted uniform item) -Top can be detached and worn as just the skirt with long or short sleeved polo tops. -Can be worn all year round.</p>

	<p>RAIN JACKET Waterproof jacket with polar fleece lining, hidden hood, pockets and embroidered logo. -Can be worn with any school uniform item. -Plain navy jackets are permitted.</p> <p>Other colours will not be permitted during the school day or whilst representing Kinglake West Primary School at events, excursions etc.</p>
	<p>SUMMER HATS Broad brimmed or bucket hat. -Must be navy in colour with the school logo or completely plain -Must be worn during Terms 1 and 4 -Not to be worn indoors</p>
	<p>BEANIES/SCARVES/GLOVES Beanie – Must be plain navy or the school knitted beanie. Scarf – Must be plain navy Gloves – Must be plain navy</p> <p>None of the above items are to be worn in class.</p>
	<p>SOCKS/TIGHTS School socks must be plain navy or white and must not contain any logos or designs. Plain navy winter tights are permitted under the winter dress/tunic, school dress or skorts.</p>
	<p>SHOES Any sports runners or plain black leather school shoes are permitted.</p>

General appearance

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

- Uniforms must be clean and in good repair
- Uniforms must be clearly marked with the owner's name

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- Additional layers of clothing may be worn underneath the uniform for added warmth, provided these undergarments are completely hidden.

Jewellery and cosmetics

Students are not permitted to wear decorative jewellery to school. Stud earrings and sleepers worn in the ears, and watches, are the only acceptable jewellery. Jewellery for religious purposes may be worn.

Cosmetics may not be worn at school. Only clear nail polish is permitted.

Hair and Sun safety

Shoulder length or longer hair is to be tied back to help restrict the spread of nits and lice and for student safety.

School uniform hats must be worn outside during Terms 1 and 4 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

Sample only:

Uniform items can be purchased directly from Spartan School Supplies. The school has sizes available to try on.

<https://www.spartanss.com.au/>

Kinglake West Primary School Parents' Club also operates a second-hand uniform store for parents. Please contact the school office for more information.

Support for families experiencing difficulty

Please contact the Principal or Tracey Jones 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/>

Kinglake West Primary School also has uniforms available to families to borrow on request.

IMPLEMENTATION

Kinglake West Primary School will ensure that this Student Dress Code is communicated to all families and students through our website and induction packs. We will assist students who may be experiencing difficulties complying with this policy where possible.

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 note will be provided to the student and parents by the classroom teacher. If non-compliance with the dress code becomes a continued occurrence, the Principal will be informed and a phone call home may be required. In this event, the school will continue to work with the student and family to support compliance.

Measures taken by Kinglake West Primary 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 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 STUDENT DRESS CODE

Kinglake West Primary 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 *Parent 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
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Discussed in student forums

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- 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

- Kinglake West Primary School Sunsmart Policy
- Kinglake West Primary School Parent Complaint Policy
- Kinglake West Primary School 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	August 2022
Consultation	School Council – August School Newsletter - August
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	August 2026

