

Policy and Procedure Register updates

Summary of changes to:

Student dress code procedure

1. Reason for new/updated policy or procedure *(select all that apply)*

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☒ Change of policy/procedure requirements | ☐ Audit/review recommendation |
| ☐ Change to legislation/delegations | ☐ Due for review ☐ Other |

The Student dress code procedure has been updated to provide clearer guidance on cultural and religious considerations, simplify dress code modifications and respond to cost-of-living pressures for families.

Schools that have already drafted, reviewed or finalised their dress code for 2027 do not need to undertake an additional review at this time. Necessary changes should be incorporated at the school's next scheduled dress code review.

2. Summary of changes

The changes to the procedure support the consistent application of dress code requirements, while reducing red tape and maintaining the authority of principals to determine local dress code arrangements in consultation with their school communities.

Overview section

- Added: Dress codes must:
 - consider suitability, as well as affordability, functionality, and durability of uniform items.
 - limit the number of branded uniform items (e.g., socks) to reduce additional costs for families.
 - allow principals to consider approving reasonable modification to the dress code inclusive of dress worn for reasons of religion, ethnicity or cultural practices, traditions or customs.

Process – Developing a dress code section

- Point 2:
 - added a new paragraph “Additionally, the dress code should allow for reasonable modifications inclusive of dress worn for reasons of religion, ethnicity or cultural practices, traditions or customs.”
 - removed examples of permitted head coverings.
 - revised wording to last paragraph “Requests to modify the dress code for reasons of religion, ethnicity or cultural practices, traditions or customs should be considered by the school and are subject to final approval by the principal.”
- Point 3:
 - added “Consider limiting the number of branded clothing items in the uniform.”
- Point 4:
 - revised wording to improve readability of sub-points.

Supporting information for the procedure

Corresponding updates were also made to the [Checklist – developing, reviewing and implement a student dress code](#) and the [Frequently asked questions about the Student dress code procedure](#) to assist implementation and review of local student dress codes.

3. Impacts to roles and responsibilities

Does the new/updated content change staff roles/responsibilities *in any way*? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, select the type of change: (select all that apply)

☒ Revised responsibilities ☐ New/additional responsibilities ☐ Removed responsibilities

Position title	Summary of change	Page#
Principal	Revised requirements for considering and deciding requests for student dress code modifications, including cultural and religious considerations.	2 and 4
Principal	Revised requirements when developing and reviewing a school's student dress code, including consideration of affordability impacts on families.	1 and 4

4. Communication and support for implementation

To support implementation:

- information has been provided to stakeholder groups
- an article was been published in ConnectED on 3 November 2026 to advise school, regional and central office staff of the changes and the commencement date of Term 1 2027
- supporting guidance materials and resources have been updated; and
- schools should refer to the updated procedure when undertaking their next dress code review.

For further assistance, please contact your [regional office](#).