



# Viewbank College

## Student Dress Code Policy



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Viewbank College

### PURPOSE

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

- Allow all students to feel equal and to prevent bullying and competition on basis of clothing
- Ensure students' appearance reflects the expectations of their school community.
- Strengthen the spirit of community within the school.
- Ensure all students are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities.
- Prepare students for the expectations of workplaces.
- Encourage students to present themselves appropriately for a particular role.

### 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

The full list of Viewbank College's compulsory school uniform items is available at Appendix A to this policy.

#### **General appearance**

The following expectations are in place to ensure that students represent the College with pride and recognise them as an integral part of the College.

- Students are expected to wear the designated Viewbank College uniform appropriately and to present a neat appearance during college hours, when travelling to and from school and when students are engaged in out-of-school hours College activities that require uniform.

- To support a student to be able to wear the correct uniform, parents/guardians are asked to oversee:
  - The purchasing of uniform items
  - The clear naming of clothing items
  - The cleaning of the uniform ready for wearing every day.
- Jewellery, if worn:
  - Must be minimal for safety reasons.
  - Ear and Face Piercing/s: Small sleepers or studs only for safety reasons.
- Hair:
  - Dye/colouring to be in natural tones.
  - Longer than shoulder length to be tied back for safety reasons.
- Non-Uniform Long and Short
  - sleeved tops
  - Plain white garments may be worn under shirts and dresses if they are not visible.
- The College Sport and Physical Education uniform can be worn to school if the student has a scheduled Physical Education practical class.

### **VET Uniform**

Some VET courses may require students to wear a uniform to their VET class. Only students who are enrolled in the following trade related courses are permitted to wear their VET protective clothing to Viewbank College on the day that they have their VET class:

- Carpentry
- Plumbing
- Automotive
- Engineering
- Electrotechnology
- Integrated technologies

The clothing should be clearly identifiable as their VET uniform. All other students must wear their full Viewbank College uniform to school on the day of their VET class.

### **Special Event Garments**

- Occasionally, special events within the College organise additional uniform items for purchase (garments such as jackets, t-shirts, hoodies or jumpers).
- The garment is not to be worn underneath the blazer or soft-shell jacket.
- The garment may be worn as a part of the school uniform for a period of **2 weeks prior** to the event and **1 week post** the event.

### **Year 12 Bomber Jackets**

- The Senior School team organises the design, purchase and delivery of the Year 12 Bomber Jackets. Every effort will be made to ensure the jackets arrive early in the year. The jackets are to reflect the school colours (navy, maroon, yellow) and 'nicknames' are to be checked by the Senior Staff Team to ensure they are appropriate. During 'Official College Events' including assemblies the Blazer or Soft-Shell jacket is to be worn in place of the Bomber Jacket.

### **Religious and Cultural Considerations**

Viewbank College is aware that some students may wish to observe religious and cultural requirements while also complying with the school dress code. The College will discuss these requirements with students and parents or carers to ascertain their cultural and religious significance and how they might be accommodated within the school's dress code policy.

## PURCHASE OF UNIFORMS

Uniform items can be purchased from:

Noone Imagewear – 283 Lower Heidelberg Rd, East Ivanhoe – 94991439

<https://www.noone.com.au/school/viewbank-college> .

Bob Stewart – Shop T25V Uni Hill Town Centre – 5 Janefield Drv, Bundoora – 90367385

<https://thomasrobert.com.au/>

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 our Business Manager to discuss support that we may be able to provide.

### Second-hand Uniform

There is a buy, swap, sell Facebook page managed by parents of Viewbank College. Please click on the following link to be taken to the page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/32458672773111>

A second-hand uniform shop will also occasionally operate at the College towards the conclusion of each school year, re-selling uniform that has been donated by departing students. These second -hand uniform sales will be advertised to the college community via a Compass News Feed.

## 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 or in person to the House Leader or Head of House 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 financial hardship that prevents them from complying with the dress code.

When the Head of House or House Leader 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
- enter a Uniform Pass using Compass Chronicle

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

Viewbank 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 Complaints Policy](#).

## COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website (or insert other online parent/carer/student communication method)
- Discussed in student forums
- 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

- Viewbank College [Sunsmart Policy](#)
- Viewbank College [Parent Complaint Policy](#)
- Viewbank College [Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy](#)
- Department of Education [Student Dress Code](#)
- Department of Education [Student Engagement policies and guidelines](#).

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	21/08/2024
Approved by	School Council
Next scheduled review date	21/08/2028

## APPENDIX A: Viewbank College Uniform Items

### General Uniform

- Viewbank College Soft-Shell Jacket
- Viewbank College Jumper
- Viewbank College Dress
- Viewbank College Skirt
- Viewbank College Trousers
- Viewbank College Blue Pants, with College logo
- Viewbank College Shorts, Navy, with College logo
- Viewbank College White Shirt, short or long sleeved, with College logo
- Black leather lace up College Shoes, Black T-Bar Shoes or Black Leather/Non-Mesh Upper Shoe (logo free)
- Socks (white or navy above ankle, no commercial logos)
- Tights (black or navy with skirt only).

### Sport and Physical Education Uniform

- Viewbank College Navy Sports Shirt with College logo
- Viewbank College Navy Sports Shorts with College logo
- Viewbank College Navy Tracksuit Pants
- Generic non-branded Navy Shorts or Tracksuit Pants
- Viewbank College Soft Shell Jacket with College logo
- Plain White Socks, above ankle, no commercial logos
- Runners or Sports Shoes (see recommendation below)
- Navy Viewbank Cap or Wide-Brimmed Hat (College hats can also be worn at recess or lunchtime)

### Optional Uniform Items

- Religious Headwear: White, blue or black in colour
- Viewbank College School Bag (backpack)
- House beanie and/or scarf
- Viewbank College Blazer

### Acceptable Shoes Guide

The below guide is designed to assist in the purchase and wearing of appropriate shoes in the school environment. These examples are not comprehensive, and we ask that prior to purchasing shoes if you are unsure if they will be acceptable or not to please contact the Assistant Principal for the Middle School or Senior School to confirm suitability. The acceptable school guides below are designed to provide students with options depending on their activity levels throughout the day, whilst also maintaining a dress standard appropriate to the formal uniform. This has been prepared and advised by Podiatry at RMIT University (2024).

## Compulsory school shoe features

School shoes worn at Viewbank must be:

- **Completely black** (including any logo(s), stitching, outsole and laces)
- **Fixed with laces, a Mary-Jane strap or a buckle** (no elastic sides or zips)
- **Have a leather upper** (not vinyl or fabric)
- **categorised as a 'School, Walking or Running' shoe** (not a 'casual/lifestyle', 'boot' or 'cross-trainer' shoe)

## Examples of Inappropriate shoes



## Examples of Approved School Shoe Models

Colorado Yard ~\$70

New Balance 624 ~\$100-110

Fila Memory Workshift ~\$70

Colorado/Lynx Erupt/Hype Snr ~\$100

Frankie4 Winnie II Black ~\$160

Alpha Riley ~\$140

Ascent Apex ~\$150

Colorado Roar Snr ~\$170

Colorado Spire Snr ~\$170

Clarks Infinity & Daytona ~\$160

Asics GT1000 Leather 2 ~\$170

Brooks Addiction/Dyad Walker ~\$200-250

Ecco Irving ~\$240

Rockport DresSport ~\$260

Dr Martens 1461 Mono ~\$240-300

**Cost**

**'Less expensive'**  
Shoes <\$70 typically have vinyl uppers and poorer durability

**'Sweet spot'**  
Durable, comfortable, stable, usually multiple widths

**'Very Expensive'**  
Don't need to spend this much for an appropriate shoe

## Compulsory Sport/PE shoe features

Sport/PE shoes worn at Viewbank must:

- **be suited to a range of sporting activities, including running** (this versatility requires sole flexibility, heel and arch support, allowance for side-to-side movement and outsole traction in wet and dry weather)
- **not be a 'casual/lifestyle' shoe or be a 'specialist' sport shoe (apart from running) or have cleats or spikes**

## Examples of Inappropriate shoes



\*Prices as indicated may vary