Nossal High School

STUDENT UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE POLICY

HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Nossal High School on 03 8762 4600 or nossal.hs@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Student Dress Code is to outline Nossal High 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 Nossal High School's School Council in close consultation with our school community. It aims to respect the rights of individual students while reflecting the values and interests of our community.

The Student Dress Code aims to:

- foster a sense of community and belonging, and encourage students to develop pride in their appearance
- support Nossal High School's commitment to ensuring that students feel equal and are dressed safely and appropriately for school activities
- reduce competition between students on the basis of clothing
- enhance the profile and identity of the school and its students within the wider community.

The School Council believes this dress code 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 travelling to and from school, during school hours and when attending school activities. Being part of Nossal High School has many advantages and benefits, but for students and parents, it also brings the responsibility of being fully committed to the student wearing the full school uniform correctly and with pride 'all day every day'.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

The full list of Nossal High School's compulsory school uniform items is available in **Appendix A** to this policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR UNIFORM AND APPPEARANCE

Students and families

- When a student enrols at Nossal High School, they and their parents or carers receive an enrolment package. It includes the Nossal High School Dress Code and uniform requirements (Appendix B).
- When starting at Nossal, students agree to follow the uniform rules and responsibilities by signing the Student Uniform Agreement (Appendix C). The signed agreement is kept in the student's copy of the Student Handbook, which they receive as part of their induction to the school.
- Students and their parents or carers are responsible for knowing and following the Nossal Dress Code, as set out in the enrolment package (Appendix B) and the Student Handbook.

Executive Leadership Team

- The Executive Leadership Team shares the Student Uniform and Dress Code Policy with staff at the start of each school year and as needed throughout the year. They also make sure staff know where to find the policy (Appendix D).

Staff

- All Nossal staff are responsible for knowing, following and upholding the Student Uniform and Dress Code Policy.
- When a staff member notices a uniform breach, they must record it in Compass Chronicle. They then follow up, as appropriate, with the student, Tutorial teacher, House Leaders, the Executive Leadership Team and parents or carers.

BUYING UNIFORMS

PSW: official uniform supplier

Store	Address	Phone
PSW Dandenong South	Unit 1, 9–11 Southlink, Dandenong South VIC 3175	(03) 9768 0343
PSW Mount Waverley	288–290 Stephensons Road, Mount Waverley VIC 3149	(03) 9768 0335

Families may also buy non-branded items worn below the waist, such as trousers, shorts and socks, from other retailers. These items must match the Nossal uniform in colour and style.

Second-hand uniform shop

The Nossal Parents and Friends Association (PFA) runs a second-hand uniform shop in the Fitness Centre. It is usually open from 8:30 am to 9:30 am on the first Monday of each month. Any extra opening times are advertised in the school newsletter.

Support for families

If your family is finding uniform costs difficult to manage, please contact the Assistant Principal – Student Wellbeing and Agency. We can talk with you confidentially about the support available, including:

- buying second-hand uniforms through the school or the PFA
- eligibility for uniform support through State Schools' Relief.

Please check these before it goes into the policy:
Further information about State Schools' Relief is also available on their website: https://www.ssr.net.au/

IMPLEMENTATION

Communicating the policy

Nossal High School will share this Student Uniform and Dress Code Policy with all students and families through its website, Compass, the school newsletter and the Student Handbook.

Where possible, the school will support students who are having difficulty meeting the requirements of this policy. Families can discuss support confidentially with the Assistant Principal – Student Wellbeing and Agency. Families seeking an ongoing exemption for cultural, religious, health, sensory or other reasons should use the exemption process published on the school website.

When a student cannot wear full uniform

If a student cannot wear the full uniform on a particular day, their parent or carer must let the school know before Period 1, explaining the reason and how long the issue is expected to last. They can do this in one of two ways:

1. **A written note.** The student gives the note to their Tutorial teacher, Head of House or the Attendance Officer before Period 1.
2. **An email.** The parent or carer emails the student's Tutorial teacher or Head of House before Period 1.

In both cases, the information will be recorded on Compass.
Students who are out of uniform without a note or email will follow the out-of-uniform procedures in Appendix A and the Student Handbook.

Responding to non-compliance

The school will respond to concerns about uniform non-compliance in line with our Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy. This includes communicating with parents and carers and, where appropriate, applying consequences that are proportionate to the situation.

EXEMPTIONS TO STUDENT DRESS CODE

We acknowledge that there may be instances in which enforcing this dress code could affect students differently.

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 financial 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 THE STUDENT UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE

Nossal High School welcomes feedback from the school community in relation to this *Student Uniform and Dress Code Policy*. If you have a concern or complaint about the *Student Uniform and Dress Code Policy*, further information about raising a concern or complaint is available in our school's *Complaints Policy*, available via our website https://www.nossalhs.vic.edu.au/policy-privacy/ and Compass.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website (https://www.nossalhs.vic.edu.au/policy-privacy/)
- Available on the Staff of NossalHS Team (Policy channel) and included in the Staff Handbook
- Included in the Student Handbook
- Available for families via Compass (School Documentation)
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Nossal High School SunSmart Policy
- Nossal High School Parent Complaint Policy
- Nossal High 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	September 2026
Consultation	Community consultation directly via focus group meeting and surveys distributed to Students, Staff and Parent/Carer Term 2 2026 School Council Strategic Review Meeting Term 3 2026 Nossal Parents and Friends Committee in Term 4 2026
Approved by	School Council in October 2026
Next scheduled review date	Term 2, 2026

APPENDIX A: NOSSAL HIGH SCHOOL DRESS CODE IMPLEMENTATION DOCUMENTATION

Our uniform is designed to be distinctive, combining a classic style with a contemporary feel. It is a visible sign of the school and of each student's membership of it. Wearing the uniform shows that students belong to Nossal and take pride in it.

The uniform policy is set by School Council and implemented by staff. Students enrolled at Nossal accept responsibility for wearing the uniform:

- on all school days
- when travelling to and from school
- when representing the school outside school hours.

Students should wear the uniform in a way that brings credit to the school. Parents and carers also accept responsibility for supporting their children to wear the correct uniform at all times.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Supplier and second-hand uniform. PSW is the official uniform supplier for Nossal High School. Second-hand uniforms can be bought from the PFA Second-hand Uniform Shop throughout the year and at the PFA's annual Second-hand Book and Uniform Sale in early December.

Branded items. All branded tops must carry the Nossal High School emblem. These are the blazer, jumper, and shirts, and, for sport, the sports polo, rugby jumper, and bonded jacket. Items worn below the waist do not need to be branded (see Academic uniform).

Blazer. The blazer must be worn as the outer garment with the academic uniform:

- when travelling to and from school, however students travel
- at assemblies and formal events
- at other times when the school requires it.

The only exception is on days of excessive temperature, as determined by the school.

Bonded jacket. With the sports uniform, the bonded jacket must be worn as the outer garment when travelling to and from school, however students travel, and at formal events.

Jumper. The jumper must not be worn as an outer garment to and from school. Students may wear it as their outer garment only while at school.

Year 12 jackets. Year 12 students may wear their Year 12 jacket as the outer garment when travelling to and from school. The Nossal blazer must be worn to all official school events, including Speech Night and the House Performing Arts Festival (HPAF).

No mixing. Academic uniform and sports uniform must never be worn together or mixed.

ACADEMIC UNIFORM

The academic uniform is the formal Nossal uniform and the standard daily uniform for all students. It is worn all year round, and there is no longer a summer-to-winter changeover. Students choose from the items below, and the blazer is always the outer garment for travel and formal occasions.

> **Grey trousers are the formal academic uniform**
> Students who wear trousers or shorts with the academic uniform must wear **charcoal grey (Greymel)** trousers or shorts in the tailored style.
> **Black pants, track pants, jeans and leggings worn as pants are not part of the academic uniform** and must not be worn with it. Track pants are for sports uniforms only.
> Families may buy grey trousers and shorts from PSW or from another retailer, as long as the colour and style match.

Thank you for getting in touch, and I am sorry to hear you were unable to secure a place at tonight's session. I completely understand your disappointment.

Please be assured that you will not miss out on any important information. Over the coming days, we will be sending all families the documentation from tonight's presentation, and most of the content covered this evening will also be shared in follow-up emails over the coming weeks.

In addition, much of the same information will be presented at Orientation Day. Parents do not need to book for this event, so you are welcome to simply come along on the day. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

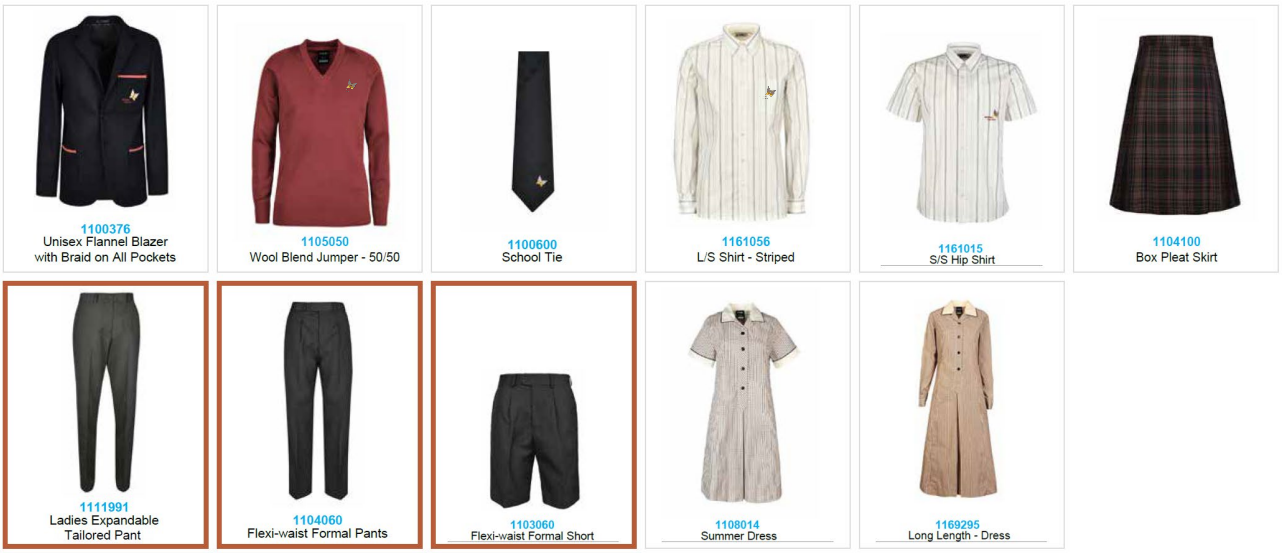


Figure 1. Academic uniform items. Grey trousers and shorts are highlighted. Images: PSW Current Uniform Storyboard, February 2026.

Academic uniform items

Item	Requirements
Blazer	Nossal blazer. Compulsory
Jumper	Nossal jumper
Shirt	Nossal long-sleeved shirt (ecru or striped), Nossal short-sleeved shirt or the new Nossal unisex shirt. Any student may wear any shirt style, regardless of gender. Shirts are worn fully buttoned when a tie is worn.
Tie	Nossal tie. Compulsory for school photos, assemblies, Speech Night, HPAF, formal excursions and when representing the school externally. Optional for everyday wear.
Trousers and shorts	Charcoal grey (Greymel) only. Tailored style: poly viscose gaberdine, single pleat, elasticised waist. Shorts are worn no more than one hand-width above the knee. Black pants and track pants are not part of the academic uniform.
Dress, skirt or skort	Nossal dress, skirt or skort, or a matching non-branded alternative, worn no more than one hand-width above the knee.
Socks and tights	Plain black anklet or knee-high socks with no visible logos, or opaque black tights.
Shoes	Plain black leather lace-up school shoes. T-bars and slipper-style shoes are not permitted.

Non-branded items. Items worn below the waist, such as pants, shorts, skirts, skorts and socks, no longer need to be bought from PSW. Families may buy non-branded alternatives from other retailers, as long as they match the Nossal uniform in colour and style and look neat. Students do not need to replace branded items they already own. These can be worn until they are outgrown or worn out.

Shirts. A unisex shirt is being introduced as an additional option, and the fabric of the ecru shirt is being improved. The school will let families know when these are available from PSW.

Extra layers. Students may wear extra layers and long-sleeved tops under their uniform for warmth, as long as they are not visible.

SPORTS UNIFORM

The sports uniform is worn on days when students have PE, sport or another approved physical activity timetabled. On those days, students may wear it to and from school with the bonded jacket as the outer garment. On all other days, students wear the academic uniform.

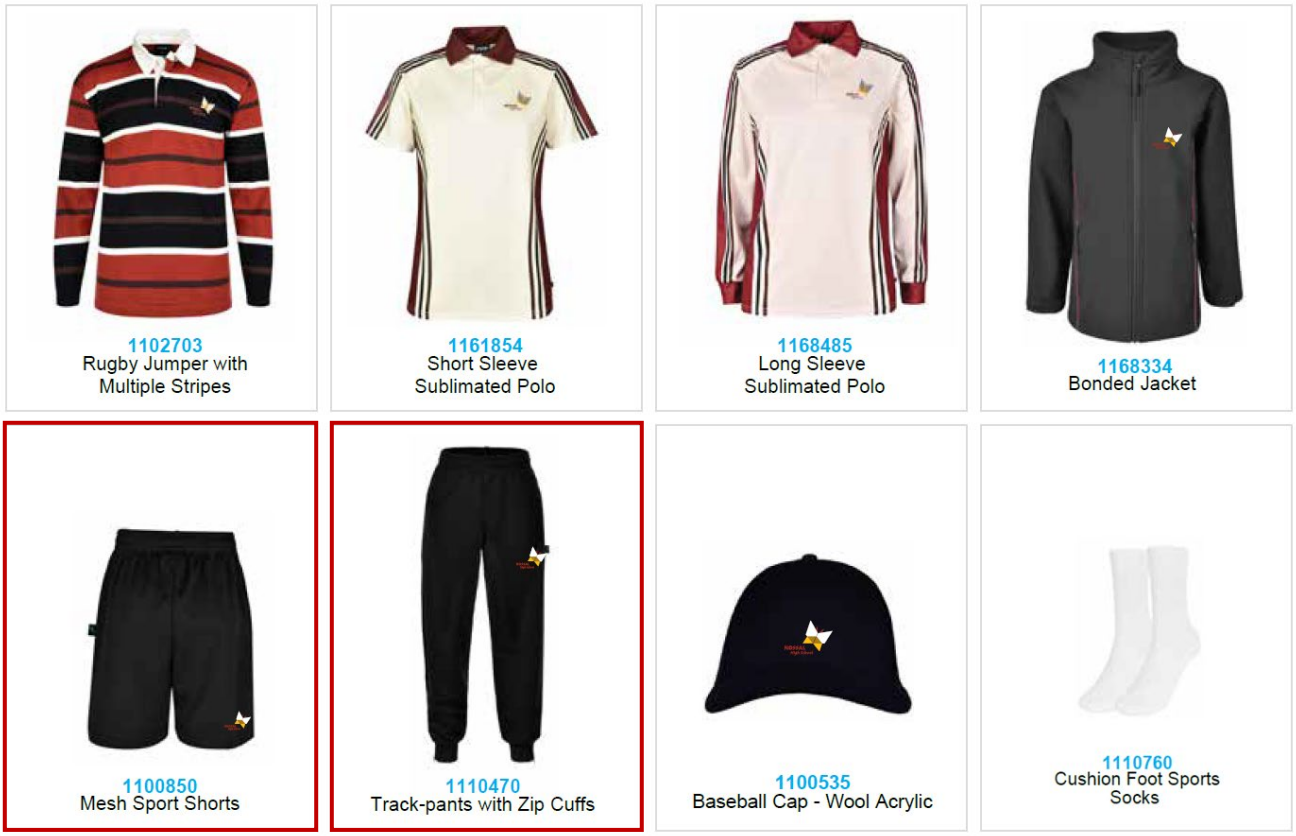


Figure 2. Sports uniform items. Images: PSW Current Uniform Storyboard, February 2026.

Sports uniform items

Item	Requirements
Sports top	Nossal sports polo, short-sleeved or long-sleeved.
Rugby jumper	Nossal rugby jumper.
Bonded jacket	Nossal bonded jacket. The outer garment for travel to and from school and at formal events.
Shorts	Nossal micromesh sports shorts. The hem must not be taken up.
Track pants	Nossal track pants. Worn only with the sports uniform, never with the academic uniform.

Item	Requirements
Cap	Nossal baseball cap.
Socks	Sports socks.
Shoes	Sports shoes with non-marking soles.

Shoes. Sports shoes with non-marking soles must be worn in all PE classes. Ankle boots, T-bars, slip-ons and slipper-style shoes are not permitted, because they can cause injury.

Compression wear. Skins and other compression sportswear may be worn during sporting activities. They must not be visible at other times, and must not be worn to, from or around school.

Changing for activities. Students using the Fitness Centre, attending sport training or competing in inter-House sport must bring their sports uniform and change into and out of it.

Representing the school. Students representing Nossal in sporting competitions must wear the Nossal sports uniform or the Nossal-approved competition uniform supplied by the school.

HAIR, JEWELLERY AND ACCESSORIES

These expectations have not changed in this review.

Hair

- Hair must be neat and tidy at all times.
- Hair accessories must be black, rust or ecru only.
- Extreme hairstyles and unnatural hair colours are not acceptable.
- For safety, all hair must be tied back in a ponytail or bun in practical classes. These include, but are not limited to, Science, PE, Systems and Food Technology.

Jewellery

- Jewellery must be simple, unobtrusive and appropriate to wear with the school uniform.
- A watch and small plain sleepers or studs (for pierced ears) are acceptable.
- One plain nose stud may be worn.
- Long or dangling items, bangles and hand jewellery must not be worn in practical classes, because they are a safety hazard.

Scarves, gloves and hats

- Plain black scarves, gloves and hats or beanies may be worn with the academic or sports uniform in Terms 2 and 3.
- Hats with logos are not acceptable, except the Nossal hat.
- Hats must be removed indoors.

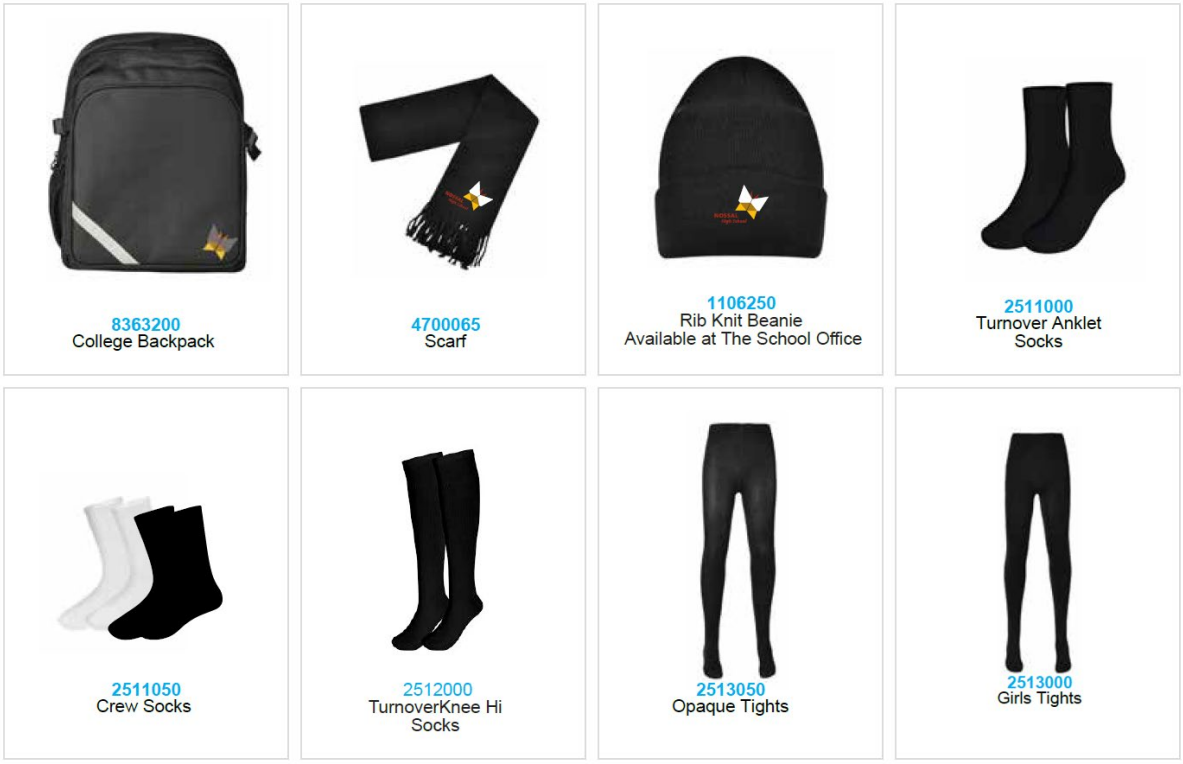


Figure 3. School bag, accessories, socks and tights. Images: PSW Current Uniform Storyboard, February 2026.

Make-up and nail polish

Nail polish and excessive make-up are not acceptable. Students will be asked to remove them.

School bag

The official Nossal High School bag is a black, monogrammed, ergonomically designed backpack.

EXEMPTIONS AND SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

Religious attire. Approved religious attire that falls outside the general uniform guidelines may be worn all year in any of the school uniform colours. Long-sleeved and extra-length dresses can be ordered from PSW at extra cost. There may be a wait of up to 12 weeks.

Exemptions. Families may apply for an exemption from part of the uniform for cultural, religious, health, sensory or other reasons. The exemption process will be published on the school website.

Financial support. Families experiencing financial hardship can find information about available support on the school website or contact the school confidentially.

OUT-OF-UNIFORM PROCEDURES

Students who are out of uniform without a note from a parent or carer must:

1. report to the Attendance Officer before Tutorial
2. wear a loaned school uniform item for the day
3. return the loaned item the next morning.

A replacement charge may apply to items that are not returned.