



17 September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As we head into the warmer months, it is important that we remind our community about the importance of wearing the correct school uniform, prioritising the health and safety of our students to ensure students wear adequate sun protective clothing to protect their skin from sun damage.

The [Education Directorate Dress Standards and Uniforms in Canberra Public Schools](#) policy, procedure and guidelines provide direction and advice to schools in developing and implementing school based student dress standards. The Chapman Primary School uniform was developed in partnership with our School Board and community, recognising the importance uniform has to:

- contribute to building school pride and school identity within the community,
- develop students' sense of belonging to our school community,
- enhance the health and safety of students in line with the schools [Sunsmart – UV Protection Policy](#), and
- to provide affordable options for families by eliminating the risk of peer pressure to wear transiently fashionable, and expensive clothes which are most often inappropriate wear for school activities.

A decision was made early this year to discontinue stocks of branded “bottoms” (shorts, pants, skirts and skorts etc) through the school uniform shop as these items are widely available from many retailers.

Garments such as generic black shorts, skirts or skorts are appropriate for every day school activities. We ask that children do not wear “bottoms” such bike-shorts as they do not offer adequate sun protection for legs. As a general guide, appropriate length can be gauged as where the end of your child’s fingertips reach when they stand with arms down by their sides. Expensive branded and fashion trend items are best kept for out of school hours wear.



Sunsmart wide-brimmed or legionnaire style hats which cover the head, face and neck, sunscreen, and appropriate clothing can make a big difference in keeping our children safe while they enjoy outdoor activities.

It is essential that we work together to promote sun safety and minimising the risk of sun damage by wearing school uniform. We appreciate your support in maintaining our school’s uniform standards and helping us promote and protect the health and well-being of all students.

The school has an equity fund to assist families experiencing financial difficulty to assist with the payment of school expenses including the purchase of school uniform. If you require assistance, please contact the school to arrange a time to talk with the Principal or Business Manager to discuss support. All communication is strictly confidential.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school on 6142 2400.

Yours faithfully,

James M. Barnett
Principal