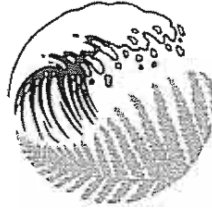
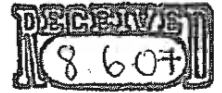


Apollo Bay



P-12 College



Ms Karen Ellingford
Executive Officer
Education and Training Committee
Parliament House
Spring Street
East Melb, 3002

7 June, 2007

Dear Ms Ellingford

Enclosed are some comments relating to school uniform from our school councillors.

Thankyou

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liz Hanger". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Liz Hanger
Acting Principal
Apollo Bay P-12 College

School Uniforms Inquiry

1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

- specifies a code of dress so that teachers don't have to waste time dealing with too much flesh showing etc
- students feel like they belong to the team.

2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

- some parents will not assist in complying
- some parents are not in favor.
- Parents cannot make their students wear it and teachers get left with the fight.
- Some schools have uniforms that are very expensive.

3 List the important features of a suitable school **dress code** or **school uniform**:
(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

- ^{Primary} Safe
- Comfortable
- Needs to allow girls to do sports appropriately
- Able to do PE in it.
- Easily accessible.
- Not too expensive
- Much easier to enforce a stricter type of uniform with primary.
- ^{Secondary} Comfortable
- Kids need to like it
- A couple of options to cater for different shapes.
- Safe

4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

- School Office.

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

- warning 1.
- warning 2.
- send home.
- need to sometimes assist poorer families who have trouble with supplying uniform. by purchasing them a uniform.

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

- rare if in wash. etc.
- schools can cope with rare misses if it is known that student is in uniform most of the time.

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

- give students a number of different options so all can feel comfortable

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

- There should be a uniform / however not a uniform that makes it mandatory for white socks black patent shoes etc.
- Uniform - should have a number of different options so that all feel comfortable wearing it. i.e. "Blue Jumper" + Jeans ok.
- It is difficult to get some students to even come to school. We continually get told by Region reps to provide other options / programs for these students. It is extremely difficult to make uniform a priority for those students.

June 8th

School Uniforms Inquiry

1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

- students when dressed for school in a uniform possibly come with a different mindset
- lower cost for parents
- sense of belonging
- reduced bullying

2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

- something the parents have to purchase
- enforcing (must be strict!!!!)

3 List the important features of a suitable school **dress code** or **school uniform**:
(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

~~Primary~~

- simple
- low cost
- be useable in all weather conditions
- comfortable

Secondary

4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

- through school office
- local surf shop??

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

- all must wear !!
- one warning, then sent home !!!

(anything less will make it difficult to enforce)

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

- rarely

-

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

- that they are appropriate

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

Uniform is a better option !!!

School Uniforms Inquiry

1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

- Students + parents know what to wear everyday

2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

- Some parents cannot afford if too prescriptive

3 List the important features of a suitable school **dress code** or **school uniform**:
(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

Primary

School shirt / sweater .

Colour pants / shorts / skirts / skirt .

Not prescriptive down to socks + shoes .

School dress

Secondary

- color or school shirt / sweater

- Colour pants / shorts / skirt

- school dress

Not prescriptive down to socks + shoes.

(Same as primary - maybe different colour shirt .

4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

Through school or local shop

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

Better when students are involved in the process of selection of uniform.
Easier for teachers to enforce

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

If injured (eg. broken arm/leg) and it doesn't fit.

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

- safe dress codes according to sun protection, slip, hazard factors.
- awareness of students beliefs.

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

I'd prefer the student body to have a say in dress codes as well as parents and teachers.

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

- Sending children home who do not have uniform after a warning or without a note from home explaining reason
- Not allowing students on excursions without uniform
- I would like to see more positive reinforcement ^{or bonuses} for students who DO wear the Uniform

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

~~Any~~ Such a decision would need to be made on an individual basis. I could not think of a reason for exemption on a permanent basis.

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

Religion, + gender to be taken into account but I don't believe a school uniform would contravene health or ~~the~~ anti-discrimination law.

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

I believe a uniform is the easiest + best alternative on all levels. Trying to enforce a dress code is far too open to interpretation amongst students.

Teachers should also be expected to set an example by dressing professionally and appropriately. Torn baggy jeans / thongs / t-shirts with rude slogans / tracksuit pants for the classroom should not be permitted.

School Uniforms Inquiry

1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

- Reduces clothing related peer pressure.
- Parents do not have to purchase the latest fashion for school wear (cheaper in the long term)
- Identifies students & can create or facilitate school pride.
- Can help erase cultural and economic differences among students & set a tone for academic emphasis.
- Teaches children appropriate dress code for the rest of their lives.

2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

- Given there are often countless second hand or 'self sew' options, I do not believe there are any cost disadvantages.
- Some school uniforms may be unflattering to some figures, so care should be taken ^{in choosing styles} so image conscious teenagers do not suffer.
- Freedom of expression through clothing is removed.

3 List the important features of a suitable school dress code or school uniform:
(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

Primary

- Colour
- Style
- Durability
- Appropriateness for Age
- Climate
- Choice (eg. skirt or dress or pants.)
- Involvement of both ~~teacher~~ students and parents in choosing the uniform - not teachers

Secondary

Same as above

4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

School based uniform shop - ~~providing~~
(option to try on sizes etc.)

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

lunchtime and after school detention.

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

Outdoor Ed.

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

Don't know.

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

low key uniform.

School Uniforms Inquiry

1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

- Presentation
- Avoids dress competition
- Affordability.

2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

No disadvantages if inexpensive and tasteful.
(Well chosen for the school community)

3 List the important features of a suitable school dress code or school uniform:

(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

Primary

Colourful, Happy, Warm, Versatile
Hard Wearing.

Secondary

Stylish, Versatile and acceptable to students.

4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

through the school.

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

Parents phoned to inform them about uniform misdemeanours and asked to address this.

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

- injury - i.e broken leg
- free dress days
- camps.

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

- culture of students
- weather / climate @ school
-

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

uniform looks neat and tidy and everyone is equal.

by June 8th

School Uniforms Inquiry

1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

- All students are equal (no expensive clothing)
- looks neat, and easy for parents to arrange
- Easily identifiable as a student.

2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

- Initial expense of purchase vs wearing existing clothes
- Need to be replaced as kids grow out of them.

3 List the important features of a suitable school dress code or school uniform:

(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

Primary

A design/color scheme agreed upon via consultation with parents

Safety of clothing during PE/classroom activities.

Secondary

4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

Organized through the school office @ time of booklist purchases.

JUNE 8

School Uniforms Inquiry

- 1 List the benefits of mandatory school uniforms:

School advantages - a united front

- children feel part of the organisation
- creates a sense of pride in the school
- no competition of dress between students
- children are identified as being part of the school

- 2 List the costs/disadvantages of mandatory school uniforms:

- Could be regarded as expensive
- Uniforms can be unflattering to some children's body shapes
- Difficult to enforce straight away when students have had some freedom in uniform dress codes for some time

- 3 List the important features of a suitable school dress code or school uniform:

(note primary/secondary may be the same if you wish)

Primary - Once the school has decided on a uniform then the wearing of it needs to be enforced.

- Selected suppliers must be encouraged i.e. all garments must be the same
- must suit the environment ~~not~~ be too complicated and culture of the school.

Secondary

- 4 What is the best way for country students to obtain uniforms?

Need to be ordered through the school from selected suppliers.

The op-shop is also an option.

5 What are appropriate uniform or dress code enforcement practices?

- After x1 warning, a student shall be sent home to change if not in correct school uniform.
- Similar warning for continued partial uniform wearing.

6 When would it be appropriate for a student to be exempt from wearing a uniform?

- School initiated uniform free days.
- In cases of a uniform problem/disaster eg: soiled at last moment, so long as the child has a note from a parent/guardian.
- Year 12 student may be exempt on a particular day each week or with.

7 What matters need to be considered to ensure dress codes and uniform policies are consistent with anti-discrimination policy and health promotion policy?

- Issues with poverty.
- " with disability
- " with culture and/or religion must be respected

8 Any further comments. May include a comment on what you believe is the best option for students : uniform/dress code/open slather.

- Children need to be involved in the selection of the uniform. This may be chosen from a range of options which has been selected by school council/parents.
- A school uniform does not necessarily have to be traditional. Eg: a brand name top or trouser may be acceptable, such as "Viperul" or "Quicksilver", but all tops/trousers/skirts etc must be the same