Government inquiry into dress codes and school uniforms in Victorian schools

The Charlton College School Council would like to make the following submission in relation to this inquiry:

1. The school council believes that it should retain the right to develop policy on school uniform – for a school uniform or if it deems so, no school uniform. In our case we have a policy that makes the wearing of school uniform compulsory.
2. In a rural area having experienced 10 years of drought, one uniform is affordable to parents and so we believe that this is the most cost effective option for us.
3. We have an arrangement with a local clothing retailer to provide the uniform and so we support a local business and this should continue.
4. Our council believes that we should be given greater powers to enforce the uniform policy. At the moment our Principal and staff have the responsibility to enforce the policy, but in reality have very few powers if parents and students wish to disregard the uniform policy of the school.
5. Our school wishes to retain the right to vary the uniform policy; for example, to allow VCE students to wear a special VCE jumper and for other students like year 9 and 10 to wear a polo top to acknowledge their involvement in a program like the “Advance program”.

Yours sincerely,

John Harley,
Executive Officer.