



"elicia dickin"

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To karen.ellingford@parliament.vic.gov.au

cc

bcc

Subject school uniform study

Dear Karen,

Has a grandmother of school age grandchildren I would like to comment on the compulsory wearing of school uniforms.

My family find the cost of the uniforms to be so astronomical and really eats into their household budget, so much so that they have to do without other essential needs.

It would be so much better for families, if the uniform was 'generic' , ie black,navy,brown skirt/trousers, white,blue,green shirt etc that can be purchased at a reasonably priced Retail Store, school motifs could be purchased separately from the students schools and sew onto the garments.

I would also like to comment on sunhats: students after leaving Primary School where the wearing of sunhats is compulsory, to them not being a compulsory part of their uniform when they go into Secondary College. After questioning the staff on this rather strange decision, we was told that it was hard to make sunhats compulsory for students at this age.

May I say that, nowadays, by the time the children go into Secondary College and because they have had to wear a hat all throughout the Primary School years and also families are now more sun smart so therefor enforce the wearing of sunhats on leaving the home, that children are now use to this action and it would easily flow on into the Secondary Colleges by the students.

Some schools have a secondhand uniform shop which is so helpful to struggling families, this would be so good if this was available within all schools.

Finally there is a stigma towards a student not wearing the correct uniform and the children feel isolated by their peers.

I am so glad that this govenment study is being undertaken and hopefully some postitive things will come out of it especially for struggling families.

Regards
Elicia Dickin