



23/07/2007 11:32 AM

To etc@parliament.vic.gov.au

cc

bcc

Subject supply of school uniforms

As a mother of five school aged children, I am not against compulsory school uniform. However the two schools my children attend do not have an alternative supplier of their uniforms. Children can be penalised with detentions if they are not in correct uniform. The Fairhills Highschool has its emblems on ALL items of school uniform and parents are forced to purchase everything from the school. The new uniform at Fairhills Primary is only available from the school as is the High School uniform. I was under the impression that there was to be at least two suppliers of school uniform for state schools to encourage competition and to prevent the parents being held to ransom by the schools.

With the recent spell of cold weather, I was dismayed when my year 7 son informed me that the level coordinator had informed him that beanies and gloves, even though plain black, were not to be worn at school as they were not part of the uniform.

As my two sons walk to school each morning, I find that the beanie and glove rule a little outrageous. I would like to see the education department enforce their own guidelines and ensure parents have the opportunity to purchase clothes from another supplier in order to save money. The two mentioned schools are in the outer eastern suburb of Ferntree Gully.

Thank you  
Sharon Harriage