



School Uniform Inquiry Submission 98



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To <etc@parliament.vic.gov.au>
cc
bcc
Subject attention Karen Ellingford re: dress codes and school uniforms

Dear Karen

The Heatherhill Secondary College Council discussed their views on dress code and school uniform in our school and wanted to make the following points to the committee

- A school uniform is a great equaliser between students. Many of our students come from families with a low socio economic status and a basic uniform is the most economical way to clothe their children for school. When students are all dressed the same there is no sense that some students are from low income families
- Schools need to be able to decide on their own uniform and dress code and have the ability to enforce it. The uniform gives students a sense of belonging to a community and enables them to have pride in their school and themselves. A uniform also enables students to be clearly identified in the school yard and on excursions.
- There needs to be a range of choices within a uniform so that students can choose comfortable appropriate attire for their age and activities. The range of choices can help ensure that dress codes are consistent with anti discrimination legislation
- This school is in favour of maintaining a mandatory school uniform

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