

School Uniform Inquiry Submission 1



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cc

bcc

Subject Inquiry into Dress Codes

For Follow Up:  Normal Priority

Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools

I would like to submit the following:

As a teacher with over 20 years experience, I have found that a pupil, correctly wearing a school uniform (i.e. shirt tucked in etc) in a school that enforces this code, 'somehow' is much attentive to their school work, more polite and courteous to teachers and fellow students.

I have found this to be even more true in the past few years when I have been an Emergency Teaching and so move between different schools with different standards.

I like to tell this story, from my very first year of teaching, as I think it demonstrates the fact of 'neatness'.

I was teaching at Hassall St SSP, Parramatta (School for Specific Purposes - MIH children). 'Dragan' was 8 years old, had shoulder-length, untidy hair. He was labelled 'hyperactive.' Thankfully I did not have to teach him as he was in the class next door. However we came across each other a lot and his well known reputation as a troublesome child was soon believed.

One day he came to school with his hair neatly cut to a 'more normal length for an 8 year old boy' and the change in behaviour was instaneous. Dragan had changed from a rebellious type boy to a model student - pleasant, courteous, rebellion had disappeared. Miraculously overnight!

I wonder how much money his simple hair cut saved the NSW tax payers and how it so clearly shows the positive effects 'a dress code.'

Yours faithfully,

Phillip Moore

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