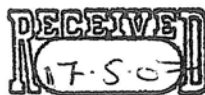


Department of Education



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File: CEN_16666/1 #631012

14 May 2007

School Uniform Inquiry Submission 37

Ms Karen Ellingford
Executive Officer
Education & Training Committee
Parliament of Victoria
Level 3/157 Spring Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Ms Ellingford

Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms

Thank you for your letter of 30 April 2007 regarding the above Inquiry.

In Tasmania the wearing of school uniforms is strongly encouraged in government schools. Parents are informed that wearing a school uniform identifies a child with their school and places all students on the same level in terms of clothing.

Most schools have a uniform shop or clothing pool that sells new and/or second hand items. Retail shops also supply uniforms.

The Department provides financial assistance for the purchasing of uniforms through the School Uniform Exceptional Assistance Scheme. The scheme supports parents/guardians of students, or independent students who are experiencing extreme poverty and/or particularly exceptional circumstances. Eligibility for assistance is assessed by school social workers on a case-by-case basis. The amount of assistance available is up to \$120 per year per student.

A one-off uniform establishment grant of up to \$200 is allocated to new-arrival refugee students.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JS", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John Smyth
SECRETARY

for