

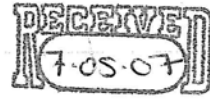
School Uniform Inquiry  
Submission 25

15 Cheltenham  
VIC

Chel

VIC

1/5/2007



Education & Training Committee  
Inquiry into School Uniforms.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my support for a compulsory uniform policy that is sunsmart.

When my eldest son started High School at Cheltenham Secondary College 9, and many others were horrified to discover that they didn't have to wear a wide brim hat at recess and lunch time in terms 1 & 4. All of the children had come from Primary schools that had compulsory hat policies. To make matters worse my eldest son has an eye condition called Pterygium which is caused by

exposure to U.V. radiation so he should be wearing sunglasses and a brim hat while outside in summer, Autumn & Spring. We manage to get him to wear sunglasses during summer but he refuses to wear a hat as nobody else is.

Teenagers don't like being different so the wearing of brim hats needs to be made compulsory at the Government level and not left up to individual schools.

While Cheltenham Secondary has a policy of wearing brim hats for P.E and outdoor excursions during terms 1 & 4 it is not strictly enforced.

Pictures taken at their annual swimming carnival show that most students were not wearing the school hat even though it was summer and they were outside. Brim hats should be compulsory and ideally sunglasses as well.

Regards Carol Wyatt