School Uniform Policy Guidelines Checklist

✓ Policy checklist

(i) Policy information

Consultation: should include the following groups:

Students

Teachers and other staff

Parents/carers

(including school Parents and Citizens' Association)

Suppliers and retailers.

Each school's uniform must be the result of formal consultation with students, teachers and other staff and parents/carers (including the Parents and Citizens' Association).

Parents/carers must be given sufficient time to purchase items and schools may need to give parents/carers up to three years where there have been changes.

All suppliers and retailers must also be notified and given sufficient time to change the school uniform.

Source: School Uniform policy

Wellbeing: factors to be considered:

The diversity of the school population (options are available within the agreed school uniform)

Uniform items encourage physical activity

Shorts and pants options are available, including specific options for girls

Items are affordable, comfortable for all body shapes and appropriate for a variety of learning and break-time activities

Appropriate, fair and consistent responses for students not following school uniform requirements.

The Department of Education requires that schools set local school uniform requirements.

A school's response to a student not wearing school uniform should be appropriate, fair and consistent.

A student cannot be suspended or expelled for not wearing school uniform.

Schools should positively encourage the wearing of a school uniform. Principals can make exemptions for not wearing a uniform after discussion with parents & carers, and if considered justified by the principal.

Health & Safety: factors to be considered:

Sun safe uniform items, including hats that protect the head, neck and ears

Uniform items necessary for particular activities, eg safe footwear

Availability of uniform items for cold and hot weather Road safety/visibility of uniforms.

Decisions about school uniform requirements must comply with work health and safety and anti-discrimination legislation.

A school uniform should promote the health and safety of students by identifying items necessary for particular activities to protect students from injury (for example, items for sun protection or safe footwear).

See Health and Safety Directorate factsheets (Intranet only):

Footwear Guidelines for NSW Government Schools

Sun Safety - overview and key steps

Supply and purchase: factors to be considered:

Families are well informed about uniform items necessary for health and safety reasons

Affordability of uniform items

Families are aware of available financial support to purchase uniform items if required

Clothing pool established and promoted for donations and access to low cost or loan uniform items

Procurement and Legal Services' advice regarding:

- · a nominated preferred supplier and/or
- · the establishment of a uniform shop to be run by an external organisation

Location and opening hours of preferred suppliers/onsite uniform shops provide reasonable opportunities for families to purchase uniform items

Supplier and retailer's details, including location and opening hours, are available on the school website and other school communication channels.

Schools must have written agreements in place to set out the terms and conditions of a 'uniform shop' and 'supply arrangements'. Schools must comply with procurement requirements to have an on-site uniform shop operated by any party, other than a Parents & Citizens Association.

Schools must advise parents on how they can access financial support if they are unable to purchase uniform items. To assist families, schools should organise facilities such as clothing pools.

For further information contact the <u>Student Health Team.</u> The diagram can also be printed and used as a planning and review checklist.

