

Should school uniform be banned?

There are many different opinions about school uniform. Some people believe that they are uncomfortable and can be expensive. On the other hand some people believe they are a smart asset to a school. We will examine both sides of the argument to discuss whether or not they should be eradicated.

School uniforms can certainly look extremely smart giving a good impression to visitors of a school. They are also vitally important when out on school trips as it is easy to identify children by the clothes that they are wearing.

Some types of school uniform (including blazers and caps) can be very costly especially if you lose or damage them. If a family is particularly large, it can be very expensive each year purchasing school uniforms for all the children.

It is often said that you lose your identity wearing a school uniform – you cannot show your true self wearing exactly the same as everyone else. Some types of school uniform can be impractical and uncomfortable whereas if you were to choose your own clothing you can tailor your choice to the activities that you are doing.



Alternatively, others argue that if children are free to choose their own clothes this can be the cause of bullying especially if one cannot afford the most up-to-date or trendy clothes.

In summary, there are arguments for and against wearing school uniform and opinions will always differ. I personally believe that wearing a school uniform can really make you feel part of the team/school family and I actually prefer wearing mine than choosing my own clothes. However, others may and probably will offer different opinions.

Read the balanced argument written by a Year 6 pupil.

What are the organisational features of a balanced argument?

What connectives have been used?

List the arguments for wearing a school uniform.

List the arguments against wearing a school uniform.

Write your own opinion/closing statement as to whether you believe that school uniforms should be banned.

Write a balanced argument for the following question:

Should mobile phones for children under 12 be banned?



Planning

Introduction

Arguments for

Arguments against

Conclusion

Use the framework below to plan your balanced argument

Introduction – introducing the question

Argument 1 – for

Argument 1 – against

Argument 2 – for

Argument 2 – against

Balanced argument checklist

Have you ...

- ★ Written an introduction explaining the question/issue?
- ★ Written at least 2 arguments for and against?
- ★ Used interesting connectives?
- ★ Written a conclusion recapping on the question and summarising the points?