

## School Uniform Prompt



Most private schools require students to wear uniforms. Should public school students wear uniforms too? Argue for or against school uniforms for public school students. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

### You need:

- An Intro
- A clear thesis.
- 2-3 paragraphs with clear **topic sentences, supporting details, and commentary.**
- A conclusion

### I Agree!

- Many school administrators and parents argue that uniforms help maintain a positive learning environment and reduce discipline problems. They argue that children lack self-discipline because parents refuse to discipline them and that uniforms help establish some of what is lacking at home.
- Most schools report that introducing uniforms helps reduce violence and teasing. They report that uniforms ease gang tensions and reduce teasing of students who can't afford trendy and expensive clothes.
- Many parents believe that students wearing uniforms helps to reduce distractions caused by outlandish or revealing clothing.
- Uniforms are often much less expensive than designer clothing. They can be purchased at discount prices and handed down to younger siblings.
- Some feel that uniforms help to promote school spirit and increase school pride.

### I Disagree!

- Many educators and students argue that uniforms suppress individuality. Some educators even argue that encouraging students to pursue individual thought is much more important than what students wear, and that uniforms inhibit creativity and self-expressions.
- Others point out that enforcing a strict dress code only encourages a rebellious spirit in students. Many students alter uniforms by tightening, widening, and/or shortening uniforms and that enforcing a strict dress code is a virtual impossibility that takes away from instructional time.
- Opponents suggest that there is no credible evidence to suggest that school uniforms are linked to fewer discipline problems or higher academic achievement. They claim that dress does not improve learning and cite that many great students are horrific dressers.
- Some have suggested that uniforms actually represent an increased cost to parents; students need to purchase both "play" clothes and "school" clothes.