Persuasive Essay Years 7 - 9: School Uniform

Thirteen years of young people's lives are spent in school and many say these are the best years of their lives. However, school brings rules and boundaries including the need to wear school uniform which many, including myself, believe are unnecessary.

Introduces the topic, establishes audience's attention Contention established

School uniform is believed to allow teachers and other members of staff to easily identify pupils within or without the school, which is merely a safety precaution. Primary school students, I agree should wear school uniform as they are younger and are more likely to disappear or become lost when out on a school trip. However, secondary school pupils arrive at the Academy with expectations of being treated more like adults, but this is diminished by the rule of wearing a school uniform as it stops you from being your own person.

Logical/rational sequencing of arguments
Use of personal pronouns

The younger years of people's lives are always the most vulnerable and self-discovering. Younger people begin to try and find their own personality and make themselves feel as though they fit in with the other young people that surround them. However, school uniform does not allow you to have your own personality show through as it makes everybody look the same and if pupils cannot find out who they really are then a vital part of school experience is denied.

Link established between the two paragraphs using the idea of 'identity'

Although the safety factor is a big issue I believe there are other ways to solve the problem. This includes the idea of school pupils only having to wear one piece of school clothing, for example a shirt. This idea would allow pupils to then choose their own outfit around the shirt and feel more like themselves, more comfortable and then may be willing to work better. As well as this pupils could be issued with an identity card. This would work by pupils simply showing an identity card to sensors at numerous doors allowing them to walk about the school freely. There are many other ways of solving this situation for example, finger print scanners.

Emotive language/appeals to fear

However I do believe that school uniform has advantages. Many people get bullied because of their clothing, and the way they look. School uniform helps to stop this as everybody looks the similar or at least hides it till the end of the school day. School uniform prevents people prejudging others as everybody looks similar to one another. There are many categories of social groups for example Goths, punks, indie and popular people but school uniform helps to create a more equal atmosphere within the school. School years is the time when most young people are likely to experience abuse and bulling but school uniform allows them to have the same chance as everybody else sitting around them as they are not worried about how they look or how other pupils will treat them because of what they are wearing. Furthermore school uniform shows and teaches young people how to look smart and prepare them for life after school. Many businesses expect their colleagues to wear uniform and schools get pupils ready and expect them to wear uniform.

Offers a practical solution and explanation for the uniform alternative

presented and refuted
Opposition's main

argument discredited

Appeal to fairness

Opposing point of view

Rebuttal paragraph -

Appeals to hip-pocket nerve

Uniform can also be extremely expensive for parents to buy for their children every working year. Each year, especially towards the start of a young person's start at the Academy they grow which would involve parents having to go out and buy new clothes. This problem could be avoided by simply allowing young people to wear their own home clothes, saving on a lot of money as parent do not have to constantly replace torn or damaged clothes with over-expensive new clothes that are just going to end up ruined again. Although, I also do believe that buying home

clothes for young people is extremely expensive as well as many like to wear brands. Many people believe that school uniform look smart and I do agree with that but I believe that it's how a person feels within the clothes that counts. I believe that school should be comfortable as students are there for at least 6 hours a day. However I don't see how this is possible in a fitted shirt with a tied, tight tailored trousers or school tights with a skirt. Education is important but I can't see how what you are wearing can make a difference to your learning process.

Rational tone used

Many pupils believe that having to wear school uniform is against their own rights and should be allowed to wear what they would prefer. If school pupils are made to wear unfirm they why don't' students and College of University have to? What College or universities feel the right to have such strict security measures? And what's to stop a stranger simply buying a school uniform and disguising themselves?

Rhetorical questions used

As I agree that there are many advantages and disadvantages to school uniforms but I still believe that there are many other ways to identify pupils that would provide more comfort and for pupils. There will never be a time when everybody is happy and settles on what's right about school uniforms as there are many arguments on whether or not pupils should have to wear them. Many believe there is a necessity and look professional but others, including myself, believe that there just a poor excuse to rob more money of people.

Concluding statement

Restates contention and main arguments

Finishes with a powerful statement for a last impact

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