



## **RACHEL NOLAN MP**

### **Member for Ipswich**

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### **NOLAN SUPPORTS COMPULSORY UNIFORM PUSH**

The proper wearing of school uniforms should be compulsory and enforceable in all state schools, Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said today.

Her comments are in response to discussions currently underway regarding review of the relevant legislation, the *Education (General Provisions) Act*.

“The appearance of students and the physical environment of the school sets the tone of a learning environment,” Ms Nolan said.

“I visit lots of schools and I have come to the strong view that schools where kids wear uniform and wear it well are strong environments where students respect themselves, their school and their teachers.

“Scruffy kids often have a scruffy attitude and the proper wearing of school uniforms is a good foundation from which self respect and discipline in a school can begin.

“I don’t buy the argument – as some people have said – that not everyone can afford the school uniform. Uniform is generally cheaper and easier to maintain than the jeans and T-Shirts kids wear to school and most state schools go out of their way to assist families in genuine hardship with access to uniforms.

“From students’ perspective, uniform removes the daily fashion parade of who can afford fashionable clothes and who can’t. It means that people can be judged on their merits, not just the superficial things.”

Ms Nolan said she had first raised this issue in a speech to Parliament in 2004.