

SHOPPING FOR CHILDREN'S UNIFORMS



It may not always be necessary to purchase new uniforms for the start of the new school term. It would be good to examine the condition of the ones the child has now to see if they fit and are in a condition where they can still be worn. Based on this, parents could then decide whether new uniforms are required.



Some schools may have an arrangement in place to supply uniforms. However if it is not compulsory to purchase from these sources, it is important to compare prices, that is, whether it would be cheaper to have it made by a dressmaker or tailor. Purchasing ready-made may be more convenient but not always economical.



Identify a dressmaker or tailor who can make the uniforms to the school's specifications and delivers on time. In which case, it would be necessary to get a pattern from the school and provide them with it as a guide.



It would be good to also consult a dressmaker or tailor to find out about measurements as to how much material you may need. Find out the necessary width of the material in relation to the measurements given.



Take this information with you and upon identifying suitable material, ask about its width, for example, whether it is 60 or 45 inches wide. The width will determine how much length you will need to purchase.



When purchasing the material make sure that it is not damaged and make sure that you retain the receipt for any purchases made.



If you have to return to the store for additional quantities, it would be good to take a sample to ensure that you purchase the same texture and shade of the material.



Whether you make ready-made purchases or you take your material to the dressmaker, ensure that:

- ***Buttons are sewn on strongly;***
- ***Zips work easily;***
- ***There is a seam allowance; and,***
- ***There are no loose threads to make the clothes appear untidy.***

