



Uniform change arrives in Perth



LINDA PARRI

TOP Perth private schools will allow girls to wear shorts and pants from next year as the uniform revolution gathers momentum.

Guildford Grammar School, one of WA's oldest boys' schools, said it would allow its first female secondary school students the option to choose between dresses and shorts or pants next year.

Co-educational John XXIII College, in Mt Claremont, revealed it would change its uniform policy to give girls

against girls. It comes after *The Sunday Times* revealed every primary and secondary public school in WA will be told by the State Government that they must allow female students to wear shorts and pants.

Guildford Grammar headmaster Stephen Webber said the extension into co-education gave the school the opportunity to review its uniform.

"It really was a pretty straightforward decision for us to provide the options. It made sense," he said.

In summer, female students can choose to wear a dress, or

All options: Guildford Grammar winter and summer uniform options are designed for girls in Years 7-12.

icultural society, there are many students with different sizes and shapes and these need to be accommodated for in cut, fit and fabrication in optional pieces that add confidence and comfort," he said. "I think the most important point is that schools are starting to realise and understand that students of today have

uniform policy to give girls more options from 2018.

And All Saints' College, a co-ed school which already allows trousers in winter, said its girls were currently trialling a variety of shorts for summer.

There has been a groundswell of support across Australia this week to scrap school uniforms which discriminate

can choose to wear a dress, or shorts paired with a short-sleeved blue shirt. In winter, female pupils can choose to wear a blazer with a skirt or pants, with the option of a classic or tailored fit pant.

Mr Webber said the uniform would encourage female students to play and be active.

Enrolments have risen since the co-ed announcement last November, with 40 girls and an extra 10 boys signing up for next year.

"In a pretty tough economic climate for families, that's really positive," he said. "And we expect those numbers to keep increasing because our inquiries in August quadrupled from last year, which is a really strong sign, considering numbers are dropping at the moment at independent schools."

Renowned Australian fashion designer Jonathan Ward is the man behind Guildford's new uniforms.

He said uniforms needed to change to accommodate changing body shapes and earlier development.

"As we live in a modern mul-



Sunday Times

SETTING THE AGENDA

Our exclusive story last week on WA changing its uniform policy for girls sparked a huge reaction around Australia. The story revealed how 11-year-old Sofia Myhre's letter to WA Education



Guildford fashion: Jonathan Ward works on the new Guildford Grammar school uniform for young women. Picture: Jeremy Piper

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