

Detention for wearing the wrong trousers

Pupils at Heaton Manor school in Newcastle were taken out of classes after falling foul of confusing uniform rules.

Angry parent Christine Reid said the minute her daughter walked through the school gates, she was taken into isolation. She told the *Newcastle Chronicle*: “She was in detention for eight hours yesterday and she was deeply distressed. I’d understand if she’d behaved badly, but this is punishment for a pair of trousers the teachers don’t like.”

Lynne Ackland, headteacher at Heaton Manor, said: “We have apologised and will apologise again to the pupils we wrongly put into detention and to their parents. This was a sincere effort to standardise our uniforms and there has been great support from the school community. But we will clearly need to be much more specific in future about what the standard uniform should look like.”

She added: “We have told parents children should wear ‘tailored’ black trousers as opposed to very tight-fitting trousers, leggings, jeggings or cargo pants. However, we had not anticipated the many different styles we would be confronted with on the first day of term and we have clearly been overzealous and inconsistent in our response to this.”

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