



SGAL Guide to School Council Working Parties

Working Parties terms of reference.

Working parties are not mentioned in the school council guidelines, yet they may form a useful part of the school governance structure.

In effect a working party is a “task and finish” group. This has several advantages and disadvantages.

Initially and most importantly, the group is freed from the round of Council meetings to pursue a single idea and make recommendations either to the full Council or to a Sub-committee for further discussion.

It is important for the Council to provide strong terms of reference for a working party and strict timeline for action.

For example:

School Uniform working party

Terms of reference

- Investigate options for the school uniform via discussion groups and surveys
- Determine school community support for a compulsory uniform,
- Provide a detailed analysis of all surveys –parents, students, staff
- Make a recommendation on the school uniform policy by end of August.