

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2016**

Question

Will the Minister state what policy, if any, is in place regarding non-gender-specific uniforms in schools and explain what choice is given to students who wish to wear uniforms not traditionally associated with their birth gender?

Answer

Policies relating to transgender issues in Jersey schools are currently being developed in conjunction with the Law Officers' Department. In the meantime best-practice guidance from UK schools is being used, where necessary, to support transgender young people. Head teachers and other school staff have recently taken part in training on the Discrimination (Jersey) Law 2013, including gender issues. This professional training was provided by the Jersey Advisory and Conciliation Service (JACS).

Jersey schools are intended to be inclusive environments and will work with transgender young people to ensure flexibility so that that any distress is minimised and they feel supported. School uniform should not present an issue: just as for any other pupil, transgender students in a mixed school would be expected to follow the school uniform policy for their preferred gender. Where a school is single sex or where specific issues arise, schools will work with individual students to ensure their needs are met.