

From: <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-26504038>

**1. Read the text. Take notes if necessary.**

**Families struggling to afford school uniforms should be treated better, an AM has said, after a teenager was punished for wearing the wrong shoes.** It follows the case of a Wrexham pupil who was made to study in a "cupboard" for wearing the wrong shoes while her mother was waiting to be paid.

Llyr Gruffydd said children should not be punished at school if families cannot afford the right clothes.

The Welsh government said uniform policy was a matter for the school.

Mr Gruffydd, Plaid Cymru AM for North Wales, has taken up the case of Charlotte Owen and her 15-year-old daughter Lauren, a pupil at Ysgol Rhiwabon in Wrexham.

Ms Owen, a single parent of four on benefits, claims she sent a note to school via Lauren explaining her daughter would be without the regulation shoes for a short time until she could afford to buy a new pair.

She plans to formally complain to the school after her daughter said she was put in "isolation" - a room where children work in silence - for a full day because she did not have the right shoes.

When the "isolation" room was full, she was forced to work alone in a storage cupboard for an hour, she said.

Lauren said: "The cupboard is about a metre by 1.5m and it's got a little desk, a chair ... and they had shelves." Although she said the door was wide open, she said: "I didn't like it very much. It was very cramped and very lonely."

She said she "found it very unfair because it wasn't my fault, so I shouldn't be getting the punishment for it". Charlotte Owen said she was "absolutely disgusted," adding: "You don't put a child in a cupboard."

She said she visited the school the following morning, saw the cupboard, and said the school was "very apologetic".

However, she said: "The rules and regulations that they seem to have, they don't give much leeway at all, and I think it's extremely unfair."

"Lauren's a good student. She's in all the top sets. She attends school all the time... and you're doing this to her for a pair of shoes? What sort of message is that going to send out?" She added: "Of course it's not Lauren's fault. Far from it. At the end of the day they're punishing children for something that's totally out of their hands."

**2. Answer the following questions in your English.**

1. What happened to Charlotte Owen? (2 things. Add an idea of consequence)

2. What has her mother decided after what happened to her daughter?

3. Do you agree with her decision? Say why.

4. Comment and explain this sentence:

"Of course it's not Lauren's fault. Far from it. At the end of the day they're punishing children for something that's totally out of their hands."

### 3. Match the clothes and the right labels.

A SPORTS BRA

AN INSULATING LAYER

A WIND JACKET

A SHORT SLEEVED SHIRT

A LONG SLEEVED SHIRT

LOW GAITERS

A BANDANA



### 4. Type the name of the clothing item. (At least 10)



5. Listen to the mp3 and recap by typing in the box.

