

Goodies



Back to Schoolbags



It is a new school year and you might just need a new quality schoolbag to put your textbooks in.



We should forget about schoolbags altogether!

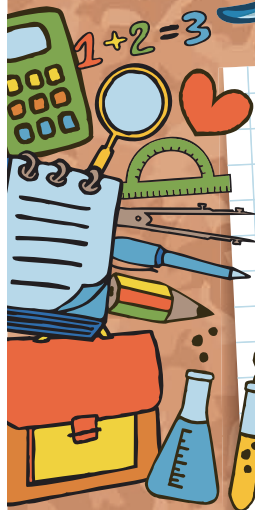
No, we should put some effort into finding a good one.



What makes a good schoolbag? Experts say it must have the following features:

- ✓ **Sturdiness:** schoolbags must not fall apart when carrying your textbooks and other items, so the material your bag uses must be sturdy
- ✓ **Weight:** a full schoolbag should be only 10 to 15 percent of your weight; meaning if you weigh about 30kg, your bag should only be around 3 to 4.5 kg

- ✓ **Size:** the shoulder straps should not be too far apart; parents should not buy an overly big schoolbag for kids to 'grow into'. Do not forget that the waist strap helps support the back, too
- ✓ **Wheeled or not:** schoolbags with wheels are clumsier and heavier, but a child should not carry too much on their back either
- ✓ **Spinal protection:** as kids are still growing, a bad schoolbag might make muscles ache, and cause a crooked spine or slouching





Alex

Cut from the same cloth



G OING back to school also means it is time to put on your school uniforms again. For some, their old uniforms still fit, but for others, they need new ones. But where did school uniforms come from?

School uniforms in Hong Kong

THERE are 581 primary and secondary schools in Hong Kong, and most of them require their students to wear uniforms. There are **benefits** to the **practice**. Wearing uniforms means students will not be comparing whose clothes are more **fashionable** or expensive, and it creates a sense of belonging towards the school.



Origins of uniforms

PEOPLE have been wearing uniforms since the ancient times. The earliest records of school uniforms come from England (英格蘭) in 1222, but modern school uniforms came about in the 16th century, also in England. Some upper-class schools there had very formal uniforms, eg, Eton College made students wear **top hats and tails** until 1972.

Different rules

MANY schools still require uniforms. Even in schools without uniforms, many of them still have a **dress code** – meaning students can wear casual clothes but some things are not allowed. For example, some schools in crime-heavy neighbourhoods do not allow students to wear red because it can be a **gang** colour.



G FUN

Help Rose get to school by going through the maze.

Answers on P12