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Parents complain to Nowra High School teachers, staff about 'disgusting' formal awards

Christopher Harris, The Daily Telegraph

December 12, 2018 12:00am

Subscriber only







Teachers urge students to skip school for protest

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daddy", "biggest Bong Lord" and "best Asian" at the student-organised end of year celebration on Friday night.

Other categories include "first to be a parent", "biggest flexer", "most likely to live off Centrelink", "most friend zoned" and "biggest rack".

Year 10 Formal Awards	Biggest Bong Lord
hey guys, write your nominees first and last name downfilts one person per answer. These are our second lot of awards \dot{j}	Your answer
Biggest Rack	
Your enames	Most likely to live off centrelink
Best Ass	Your answer
Your stismer	
Most likely to have a sugar daddy	Cutest Couple
Your ensives	Your answer
Most friend zoned	March Police
Your ensiver	Worst Driver
Most likely to live with mum at 30	Your answer
You'r answer	
	Biggest Tease
Best Asian	Your answer
An online survey was sent around from students to nominate peers in certain categories.	♠ The awards are part of a school formal.

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No, it's all part of the fun at a formal.

Yes, it can be demeaning.

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It is unknown exactly who is circulating the online form.

One mother contacted The Daily Telegraph to say she had complained to school staff about the nature of the awards but was told it was not a school-run event and teachers were powerless to act.

But when The Telegraph contacted the Department of Education yesterday, a spokeswoman said they would investigate and punish the students responsible for the survey.

The spokeswoman reiterated that the formal, to be held at Nowra Golf Club, had not been organised by the school.



The Department of Education will punish the students responsible for the survey.

Many schools stopped officially endorsing Year 10 formals after the school leaving age was raised in 2010.

"The school is deeply disappointed by the actions of students who have organised the event and created the highly inappropriate online survey," the spokeswoman said.

"The survey has been taken down and the school will continue to investigate the issue to determine those students responsible.

"Any students found to have been involved will be counselled and disciplined according to the school's disciplinary policy."

The mother who spoke to The Telegraph on condition of anonymity likened the incident to cyber-bullying.



One parent warned a student could commit suicide, like Dolly Everett did after being cyberbullied. Picture: Adrian Brown

"Dolly Everett committed suicide because of the same sort of stuff," she said.

"Surely the teacher could do something about it, it is pretty disgusting.

"They said there is nothing they could do about it and they said they have nothing to do with the formal because it is organised by students."

Bullying expert Christine Bennett said jibes like the ones in the survey were rampant among young people.

"Depending on a child's self-esteem it can lead to suicide if it is not handled well by the parents or the school and they noticed there is an increasing level of depression," she said.

"It does need to be taken seriously. It is rampant in schools, workplaces and even hospitals."





