

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS (ACSSO)

The national voice of parents of students in Australia's public schools and their school communities

MEDIA RELEASE

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PARENTS WELCOME COMPUTER POLICY FROM LABOR

The peak council for Australia's public school parents has endorsed Kevin Rudd's tax break for computers and other school equipment.

Labor's \$2.3 billion initiative provides parents on Family Benefits with a 50% tax rebate worth up to \$750 for primary students and \$1500 for secondary students.

Equipment eligible for the rebate includes lap-tops, internet connection costs, printers, educational software and school text-books.

Australian Council of State School Organisations President Jenny Branch said it was a smart way to help those families battling to meet increasing education costs and make computer literacy available to all.

"The initiative also puts a renewed emphasis on education during the election campaign" , she said.

She said parents were looking forward to the day when all students, rich or poor, would be able to use computers equally well and have the same access to learning both at school and at home.

The Rudd plan has accepted that computers are the 21st century equivalent of the work and education toolbox.

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