



MEDIA STATEMENT

RITA SAFFIOTI MLA
MEMBER FOR WEST SWAN



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PARENTS SHOULD HOLD ONTO RECEIPTS FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL PURCHASES

Local Member for West Swan Rita Saffioti has encouraged parents to contact her office to find out about allowances and financial savings that are available for when their children return to school.

Ms Saffioti is encouraging parents to keep receipts for back-to-school items purchased for their children, in order to take advantage of Federal Labor's \$4.4 billion Education Tax Refund.

"The refund is designed to take some of the financial pressure off parents heading into the new school year and can be claimed on a number of items such as computer equipment and software, home internet connections, textbooks and trade tools for secondary school trade courses," she said.

"Parents can receive up to 50 per cent of eligible education expenses up to \$794 for high school students and \$397 for primary school students.

"From July this year, parents will also be able to claim a refund on school uniforms purchased in the new financial year."

Ms Saffioti said parents should hang on to receipts for any items purchased for the 2011 school year so claims can be processed.

"It's important that parents keep receipts for all back-to-school purchases so refunds can be calculated or if proof of purchase is required," she said.

Ms Saffioti said the Barnett Government's record increases to household bills continued to hurt families so it was important parents understand how they can save money on back-to-school purchases.

"There are ways for parents to reduce the cost of the new school year," she said.

"Parents may be eligible for a number of state and federal government allowances that can assist in paying school fees, uniforms, textbooks, boarding fees and many other associated costs."

Ms Saffioti has compiled a booklet to provide parents with information on what assistance is available and ways to save money this school year.

To obtain a copy of the booklet please contact Ms Saffioti's office on 9248 3822. For further information on the Education Tax Refund, including a list of claimable items visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au.

Media Contact: Rita Saffioti 9248 3822