



Sid Sidebottom MP ... for a fair go in Braddon

Media Release

February 2, 2008

Sid reminds NW parents to keep receipts for Education Tax Refund

Federal Member for Braddon Sid Sidebottom has today reminded parents of school children on the North-West and West Coast to keep their receipts for education-related costs in the lead up to the 2009 school year.

The Rudd Government's \$4.4 billion Education Tax Rebate allows parents to claim a 50 per cent refund on the cost of school expenses, with refunds of up to \$375 per primary school student and \$750 per secondary school student available.

"The back-to-school period can be so expensive for parents, particularly given it comes straight after Christmas and New Year," Mr Sidebottom said.

"Every bit counts when you're faced with the prospect of all those expenses associated with getting the kids ready to go for the new school year – this is even more the case in the midst of the global financial crisis.

"The refunds parents can accumulate at this time of year will no doubt come in really handy come the end of the 2008-09 financial year which is less than six months away.

"But to make the most of it parents need to be organised and keep their receipts in a safe place."

Items covered under the Education Tax Refund include:

- laptops;
- home computers and associated costs;
- home internet connections;
- printers;
- education software;
- trade tools for use at school;
- school text books; and
- stationery.

Parents entitled to Family Tax Benefit (FTB) Part A for children in primary or secondary school for the relevant financial year are eligible for the Education Tax Refund.

Parents are also eligible if they have children in primary or secondary school who would be eligible children for FTB Part A purposes, but for the fact that the child receives certain payments or allowances, for example:

- Youth Allowance;
- Disability Support Pension; and
- ABSTUDY Living Allowance.

Parents will then be able to claim 50 per cent of these expenses through their tax return at the end of the financial year. For those who are not required to complete an income tax return, a separate form will be available from the Australian Taxation Office.

For more information: Eliza Young

0439 342 159