

State Budget 2006/07 Information Sheet Education and Employment

WACOSS' Recommendation	Budget Outcome	Comments
<p>Increase Casual Workers Entitlements The <i>Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993</i> should be amended to enhance and protect the entitlement of casual workers. Such amendments could include entitlements for long term casual workers to convert to permanent employment, increase the casual loading which is currently 20% to 25% and provide parental leave to long term casual employees.</p>	<p>No detail identified in budget</p>	
<p>Paid Parental Leave That a government funded scheme of paid parental leave be available for women and men in paid work in the public, private and non-government sectors.</p>	<p>No detail identified in budget</p>	
<p>Support for School Students in Raising the School Leaving Age That the funding and resources allocated for the raising of the school leaving age be reviewed with the prospect of increasing support services for children and young people experiencing barriers to effective engagement and participation in education.</p>	<p>Initiatives for 2006/07 As a result of raising of the school leaving age, new programs were trialled across all education districts in 2005 to assist the education and training sectors to cater for students expected to return. Where appropriate, successful programs have been continued in 2006.</p>	

<p>Educational and Training Support for CaLD and Indigenous Youth</p> <p>That the State Government develop strategies to encourage young people from CaLD and Indigenous backgrounds to stay at school longer including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt early intervention approaches to identify the risk factors for students from Indigenous and CaLD backgrounds and develop carefully targeted need-based support structures, such as additional bi-lingual workers, counsellors with knowledge of Indigenous and CaLD issues and increased ESL support in schools • Provide specially designed services and support to children of refugees and asylum seekers in primary and high schools • Establish pre-traineeship courses for Indigenous and CaLD young people requiring additional support to assist in application process, training expectations, and post-training options • Establish a well-resourced flexible learning program to meet the specific needs of the Indigenous and CaLD young people identified as having limited schooling with inadequate literacy and numeracy skills • Provide resources to encourage schools and the local communities to initiate programs that focus on adaptive and vocational education, through a variety of activities including job search training, work placements, outdoor and personal development activities and counselling • Provide funding for staff development programs, especially cross-cultural awareness, in order to support teachers in their effort to understand and help young people from Indigenous and CaLD backgrounds. 	<p>Initiatives for 2006/07</p> <p>Facilitate Indigenous participation and skill development initiatives in partnership with the Federal Government's Indigenous Coordination Centres- \$325,000</p> <p>Otherwise no detail identified in the budget</p>	
<p>Training and Professional Development of Emergency Relief Workers</p> <p>A separate grant program be established to ensure services are able to provide quality professional development and training of both staff and volunteers providing Emergency Relief.</p>	<p>No detail identified in budget</p>	