



MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate distribution

The State Government invests \$520,000 to support Victorian kindergarten parents

Kindergarten Parents Victoria applauds the State Government's decision to invest \$520,000 to provide support for Victorian parents. The new government policy encourages parents to explore alternative management practises for kindergartens, called cluster management.

"Victorian parents with young children are volunteering 100's of hours a week managing their child's kindergarten" Emma King, CEO of Kindergarten Parents Victoria, the peak body for early childhood education in Victoria, said today. "It's a sector that relies heavily on the time and skills of volunteer parents to manage educational centres for young children during their all important formative years. Implementing recent government initiatives to improve early childhood education, although welcomed, may be a challenge for volunteers."

"Cluster management reduces the administrative burden on parents so they can focus on participating in other areas of their child's education" says Ms King. "Approximately 50% of kindergartens in Victoria are already managed by Cluster managers, and KPV will assist parents in exploring the best kindergarten management options appropriate for their communities needs."

KPV looks forward to working in partnership with the State Government and the early childhood education sector to ensure that parents are appropriately resourced and supported to provide the best possible early education experience to their children.

"KPV recognises that parents, as their child's first educators, have an invaluable role to play in improving their child's early educational outcomes. This significant government investment recognises the critical role parents play as partners in their child's education." said Ms King.

Emma King, CEO of Kindergarten Parents Victoria is available for interview on 0417 387 491 or 03 9489 3500.

Kindergarten Parents Victoria (KPV) is the peak organisation and employer body promoting quality early childhood education for Victorian children, representing over 1000 centres serving more than 200,000 Victorian children and families each year.

End media release