

## **2009 SCHOOL START BONUS**

### **Information on the School Start Bonus for parents of 2009 Prep and Year 7 students**

The School Start Bonus (SSB) was introduced in 2006 to assist parents/guardians of Prep and Year 7 students to meet the start-up costs associated with commencing Primary and Secondary schooling.

Every student enrolled for the first time in Year Prep and Year 7 in Term 1 2009 is eligible for the bonus. The School Start Bonus is separate from, and additional to, the Education Maintenance Allowance.

The SSB is not means tested and has no connection with Centrelink.

Eligible parents/guardians do not need to make a claim.

The bonus of \$300 will be paid in the form of a cash payment voucher available from the school after the enrolment process has been completed at the end of 2008, for students commencing Year Prep & Year 7 in 2009.

The voucher will be made payable to the primary care giver/legal guardian listed in the student's enrolment details held by the school.

Vouchers will be redeemable at any Australia Post outlet displaying the Bank@Post sign from the 12th January 2009 upon presentation of photo identification.

Please ensure you provide the school with your full legal name to create the voucher so that it is identical with your photo identification.

If your name is incorrect on the voucher, ask your school to reissue the voucher in your correct legal name.

Your school will issue you with the School Start Bonus voucher.

Information is also available on the Department of Education website at [www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/financialservices.htm](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/financialservices.htm). Contact the Department of Education Information and Referral Service on 1800 809 834 option 6 if you require additional information.