



# **Amanda Rishworth MP**

Member for Kingston

**MEDIA RELEASE**

1 July 2008

## **Child care support helping local parents**

“The Rudd Government is providing better child care support to local parents who want to study or undergo training to get back into the workforce”, Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston said today.

The Jobs Education and Training (JET) Child Care Fee Assistance will be extended from one to two years, to help parents who are trying to get back to work through education and training.

“This is a great initiative to make it easier for local parents who find it difficult to participate in education or training because they are looking after their kids” said Ms Rishworth.

The Rudd Government is honouring its election commitment, delivering \$23.9 million over four years to increase child care assistance to parents who are studying at university or TAFE.

The Government’s enhanced support will mean stronger employment options for parents, reduced reliance on welfare payments and a better life for themselves and their families.

“This helps local families improve their circumstances and helps the community by getting more people trained and back into the workforce” said Ms Rishworth.

“In our local community alone, there are already 113 parents using this support to help them study and undergo training,” said Ms Rishworth.

JET Child Care Fee Assistance provides parents with flexible and low cost child care support while they undertake approved study, training or job search activities.

From 1 July, this assistance will be extended to two years for full-time study, or longer if studying part-time, regardless of the length of the course.

Eligible parents will only pay 10 cents an hour for approved child care, with the Government covering the remainder of fees charged by the provider.

Amanda Rishworth MP is encouraging local parents to consider education and training opportunities and more information about the support available can be found online at [www.familyassist.gov.au](http://www.familyassist.gov.au) or by calling 13 61 50.

Another 7 000 parents across Australia are expected to start studying over the next four years as a direct result of this measure.