

To whom it may concern

I am writing in regard to the school kids bonus. I am a single parent with three school aged children, 14, 11 and 4. My 14 year old started high school (and was lucky to secure a place in the specialist hockey program) and my four year old also started kindergarten this year also. Although I was not paid the bonus for my youngest, I had the cost of uniforms and school supplies to pay for all three children. Education is not free anymore. Kindergarten booklist was over \$ 50 year 6 also. But for high school it was over \$ 200. Added to uniforms of \$70 jacket \$50 pants and t-shirts \$30. School 'voluntary' contributions of hundreds of dollars, plus at least \$50 per term per student for the extracurricular activities- then over \$ 300 for the specialist program.

That is thousands if dollars!

If the country can no longer provide free education for all, the least they can do is provide some assistance to ensure we educate the next generation of leaders

Australia is falling behind other nations in many areas, education being one of the most important areas.

What do we have without education?

We have generations with no hope and that means we will have a nation without hope

Natasha Freudenstein