

Media Release

John Kaye MLC

Greens NSW MP

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Business moves in to cash in on kids sitting Gillard's school tests

NSW Education Minister Verity Firth and her Federal counterpart Julia Gillard are creating a boom in businesses lining up to sell 'teach to the test' materials for schools, according to Greens NSW MP John Kaye.

Dr Kaye said: "Ministers Firth and Gillard are turning the education of children into a money making business.

"Private companies are targeting schools and parents with costly NAPLAN 'test preparation' materials designed to help teachers 'teach to the test'.

"Valuable parts of the curriculum will suffer as schools face pressure to concentrate on NAPLAN testing to keep climbing the greasy pole of the My School website.

"Keeping Julia Gillard and Verity Firth happy will become more important than delivering a comprehensive education for all students.

"Commercial entities targeting schools with products for 'teaching to the test' include Kilbaha Multimedia, Ogawie Pty. Ltd., Pascal Press and 3P Learning.

"Ogawie Pty Ltd is charging \$1500 for its Aussat Online program, which is being marketed through a 'free' online community.

"Both offer 'school subscriptions'. Pascal's 'Excel' NAPLAN tests retail for around \$300 for schools

"3P Learning, trading as Mathletics, is already publishing its own league tables," Dr Kaye said.

For more information: John Kaye 0407 195 455

Websites:

<http://kilbaha.googlepages.com/>

<http://www.mathletics.com.au/>

<http://www.pascalpress.com.au/Basic-Skills-Test-renamed-NAPLAN-Tests-s/415.htm>

<http://www.naplanonline.com.au/> is marketing Aussat:

https://aussat.com.au/index.php?option=com_signup&Itemid=42 for Ogawie Pty Ltd