



FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW
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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

MEDIA RELEASE

**'P&C applauds the government for supporting the trial complimentary program to Scripture studies
in NSW Public Schools'**

The Federation of Parents and Citizens' Association applauds the government's bold decision to support a trial complimentary program to scripture studies in NSW Public School to commence in 2010.

Currently Public Schools across NSW offer scripture classes with no alternative for students whose parents chose to opt out of their participation in scripture. Many of the students who don't attend scripture classes miss out on an opportunity to learn, creating an issue of unproductive time within a busy curriculum.

President Dianne Giblin states that 'The introduction of an alternative to scripture classes give parents and students an alternative choice to scripture which not only is reflective of the 21st Century schools in Australia but also recognizes the diversity of Public Schools across NSW.'

The trial, to commence in 2010, will involve year 5 and year 6 students and will allow students to explore their own values and beliefs about "fairness", the importance of telling the truth and about how to deal with bullying.

"This great step forward towards a fairer and more diverse school system will also provide children who have no theological basis to their values the opportunity to critically reflect on them and issues currently affecting our society." states Mrs. Giblin.

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