



## AUSTRALIAN PARENTS COUNCIL Inc.

*The national federation of organisations representing parents of students attending non-government schools to achieve choice, quality, equity and voice*

National Office:  
PO Box 5011  
Launceston Tas 7250

Tel: 03 6334 8886  
Fax: 03 6334 8862  
Email: [admin@austparents.edu.au](mailto:admin@austparents.edu.au)

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**SUBJECT:** Educational Partnerships a focus for Review of Funding for Schooling

**CONTACT:** Ian Dalton, Executive Director **PHONE:** 0411 255 418

The Australian Parents Council (APC) has commended the Australian Government's inclusion in the Terms of Reference for the Review of Funding for Schooling the consideration of the roles of families, parents, communities and other institutions in providing or supporting educational partnerships with schools.

The executive director of the Australian Parents Council, Ian Dalton, said, "In our response to the draft Review discussion paper and the draft terms of reference for the Review, APC made the point that while parental attitudes to education are critical to students achieving successful schooling outcomes, the potential of the parental factor in improving the outcomes of schooling is still under-researched, misunderstood and under-funded.

"Research conducted over the years in Australia and overseas has consistently found that out of school factors play a significant role in the determining the educational achievement of young people. The meaningful engagement of parents, particularly those in disadvantaged communities, can make a huge difference in boosting their children's engagement with school and their development as life long learners.

"We are therefore delighted that Minister Crean has seen fit to ask the Review Panel to consider this critical issue during the Review process and in making their recommendations."

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