



---

## MEDIA RELEASE

---

**Date: 22.06.12**

**For immediate release**

### **Kindergartens in North Queensland can share in funding**

Hinchinbrook MP, Andrew Cripps, said he hopes kindergartens in North Queensland will apply for extra funding that has been made available from the Newman LNP Government to support children with a disability.

More than 170 kindergarten services in Queensland have already shared in approximately \$1.2 million in round one of the new Disability Support Funding program (DSF).

Mr Cripps said kindergartens in Hinchinbrook should take advantage of the second round of funding.

“There is only another month left to apply for funding under this second round, so I encourage kindergartens in North Queensland with newly enrolled eligible children, or recently diagnosed children with a disability, to apply,” he said.

The disability support funding available for kindergartens this year is significantly higher than the funding available in 2010.

Kindergartens can receive between \$2,000 and \$6,000 to support children with a suspected or diagnosed disability to participate in kindergarten programs.

Mr Cripps said that money could be used for a range of resources and facilities.

“This funding could help kindergartens employ additional special needs staff, purchase specialised equipment to assist with disabled children, and buy resources to help with their early childhood learning programs,” he said.

Applications for round two close on July 27, 2012 and central governing bodies will distribute funding to their member services.

Mr Cripps has also urged kindergartens to take advantage of the one-off grant funding under the National Partnership Agreement on Early Childhood, which aims to allocate funds for eligible services to support the delivery of quality kindergarten programs.

---

Contact:	The Hon Andrew Cripps MP Member for Hinchinbrook	Address:	PO Box 1515 Ingham Qld 4850	Ph:	07 4776 1428
		E-mail:	<a href="mailto:Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au">Hinchinbrook@parliament.qld.gov.au</a>	Fax:	07 4776 3503

---

Eligible kindergarten services can apply for an enhancement grant of \$10,000 for every kindergarten room or unit currently operating at the service. Applications for these grants close on 11 July 2012.

Eligible long day care services can apply for an enhancement grant of \$5,000 on a per service basis. Eligible services are those that are providing an approved kindergarten program on or before 31 July 2012. Applications for these grants close 10 August 2012.

“Kindergartens can use the enhancement grant funding to purchase new equipment and resources, pay for maintenance and repairs, as well as to host promotional events to increase their enrolments,” Mr Cripps said.

Mr Cripps also said two capital funding programs are on offer, one specifically for kindergarten services and a second for not-for-profit early childhood education services.

“These capital funding programs provide a non-recurrent grant of \$50,000 or \$200,000 for eligible services to renovate, refurbish or upgrade their premises.”

Applications for the Renovation and Refurbishment Grant for Kindergarten Services close 27 July 2012 and applications for the Essential Upgrades Grant for Not-for-Profit Early Childhood Education and Care Services close 8 August 2012.

“There are a number of opportunities for kindergartens in the Hinchinbrook electorate to take advantage of increased funding,” Mr Cripps said.

“This money will go a long way in supporting children in the early stages of their education, and all kindergartens need to do is apply.”

Kindergartens can access application packs including full eligibility criteria for each grant program on the Department of Education, Training and Employment’s website at [www.deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/services/grants](http://www.deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/services/grants).

For more information on the Disability Support Funding Program or to download a DSF Program application form and guide, visit [www.qld.gov.au/kindy](http://www.qld.gov.au/kindy) or email [disability.supportfunding@deta.qld.gov.au](mailto:disability.supportfunding@deta.qld.gov.au)

Contact the Kindy Hotline on 1800 454 639 for more information.

**Media contact: Paul Sutherland 0412 533 187 // 3225 1781**