



ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS OF VICTORIA

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **LABOR'S SCHOOL BROADBAND AND COMPUTER PLAN WELCOMED**

Statement by Michelle Green  
Chief Executive, Association of Independent Schools

AISV welcomes the Labor Party's election commitment to provide Australian schools with fast broadband connection and more computers for students.

The Federal Labor Leader, Mr Kevin Rudd announced at the launch of the party's election campaign in Brisbane today that a Labor Government would put a computer on the desk of every upper secondary student and provide Australians schools with fibre to the premises connections, delivering broadband speeds of up to 100 megabits per second.

We are pleased that the policy provides for partnership with independent and Catholic school systems and state governments to ensure schools have sophisticated ICT strategies, including training, client support, maintenance costs and integration with the school curriculum.

The policy will support in with AISV's successful bid for \$5 million over two years under the Federal Government's Clever Networks programme to build an information communication technology network improving internet access for more than 33,000 students and nearly 3,000 staff at 90 independent schools in Victoria.

The Labor announcement complements plans that AISV has been putting in place for more than two years to ensure that students at independent schools in regional and rural Victoria have the same access to the internet as students at government schools.

AISV's ICT planning is based on research that shows that computer technology is absolutely essential to achieve good educational outcomes. We welcome any policies that will improve access by teachers and students to faster broadband and the latest equipment and services.

For more information or to interview Michelle Green, please contact Brian M. Peck 0437 515 505.