



RACHEL NOLAN MP

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Technology grants drive digital learning revolution in Ipswich electorate

Twelve state schools in the electorate of Ipswich are sharing in \$337,627 worth of State Government technology grants to further equip students for the information age, Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said today.

Ms Nolan said the grants were part of a statewide allocation of \$30 million to state schools across Queensland under the Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for Learning Annual Grants program.

"Schools have already achieved more than we expected since the State Government launched its ICTs drive in 2002, so these funds will ensure the momentum continues well into 2005," she said.

"We are committed to making technologies a fundamental part of education.

"Online services are an increasing part of everyday life in the Smart State, and education must mirror these changes to revolutionise all learning."

Schools in the electorate of Ipswich will receive their ICTs for Learning Annual Grants this month:

• Blair State School	\$19,890
• Bremer State High School	\$88,954
• Bundamba State School	\$25,689
• Churchill State School	\$18,877
• Claremont Special School	\$6,484
• Ipswich Central State School	\$34,784
• Ipswich East State School	\$21,263
• Ipswich Special School	\$13,761
• Ipswich West Special School	\$4,709
• Ipswich West State School	\$11,019
• Raceview State School	\$47,421
• Silkstone State School	\$44,776

Ms Nolan said schools can use their grants to purchase new computers, software, digital cameras, printers, internet access, network infrastructure and training for teachers.

"We need local solutions for local needs to make sure that every student gets the most out of the technology available, and schools are best placed to decide where the money should be spent," she said.

"Some schools will invest in providing students with Internet access; others will upkeep equipment and systems.

“Many will develop and share innovative programs to enrich students’ learning experiences.”

Ms Nolan said many schools had taken advantage of discounts Education Queensland had negotiated through a bulk buying arrangement.

“Not only are schools receiving increased funding but they are also being assisted to get more value for the funds they have through the bulk procurement process. This is smart business.”