



Electorate Office
125 Brisbane Road

Telephone
07 3202 3452

Email
ipswich@parliament.qld.gov.au

Postal Address
PO Box 98, Booval Q 4304

Facsimile
07 3202 4778

Web
www.rachelnolanmp.com

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Youth Support Coordinators funded for Ipswich

“Youth Support Coordinators will continue their valuable work in our community with approved funds from the State Government of \$238 207”, announced the Member for Ipswich Ms Rachel Nolan.

“The Youth Support Coordinator (YSC) Program began in 1997 with the introduction of the ETRF legislation on student engagement in schooling and is funded by the State Government through the Department of Communities.

The aim of this program is to work with high school students who are at-risk of disengaging prematurely from school and/or not transitioning into and through the Senior Phase of Learning.

Support coordinators work in and with schools to create a link to families, communities, external support agencies, alternative educational options, external recreational activities etc that may assist students at-risk of disengaging remain engaged in learning”, said Ms Nolan.

“A good education is the key to future prosperity and well being for our young people, so ensuring that they receive the education they deserve is imperative.

“The Bligh Government has demonstrated once again just how committed it is to the people of Ipswich and I applaud this allocation of funds”, said Ms Nolan.

Across Queensland, there are 113 fulltime funded YSC positions who are employed in 35 community based organisations or Registered Training Organisations.

In Ipswich, there are 5.5 funded positions based at Ipswich Community Youth Service Inc. The six (6) Ipswich YSC's work in 10 state high schools, 1 catholic school, 1 independent school and a TAFE.

The funding is part of the *Family Services Act 1987* and will continue until 30 June 2009.

Any further information can be obtained from the Program Coordinator of the Ipswich team, Amanda Margerison, on 38121050 or ysc@icys.net