

What parents pay for tutoring

28 Sep 11 @ 01:02pm by SHIREEN KHALIL



Director of PLC Sydney Extension Centre Mohan Dhall tutoring Amanda Rinaldi and Georgia Willams. Picture: DANNY AARONS

MANY parents who use tutors for their children think nothing of paying \$50 a week and some are spending well over \$150, a nationwide survey shows.

Commenting on interim results from the National Tuition Survey conducted by the Croydon-based Australian Tutoring Association, the association's CEO, Mohan Dhall, said he was shocked to see some families are parting with much more than \$150 a week.

"The average spent is around \$50, but it significantly spans more than that," Mr Dhall said.

With big events such as the HSC to cope with, he said some parents are spending close to \$200 a week.

Mr Dhall said more than 90 per cent of respondents want the mainstream education sector to recognise and work with private tutors.

And an overwhelming majority want tutoring expenses to be made tax deductible.

"We will be lobbying the federal Labor Party to include face-to-face tuition in the education tax rebate," he said.

The survey is the first of its kind in Australia. It has been completed by hundreds of parents since mid-June.

The survey closes on December 31. To fill it out, visit ata.edu.au

SOME INTERIM RESULTS

- * 62.2 per cent of students start tuition before the age of 12.
- * 56 per cent of surveyed parents spend more than \$51 per week on tuition.
- * 21 per cent spend more than \$90 a week.
- * 57 per cent prefer face-to-face tuition.
- * 82 per cent pay less than \$100 for computer-based tuition.
- * 89 per cent said it increases the confidence of their child.
- * 89 per cent agreed that tuition should be tax-deductible.
- * 92.7 per cent said the mainstream education sector should recognise and work with private tutors.