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## Government teachers believe students more likely to miss out *Access to education, technology and infrastructure*

Almost half of government<sup>1</sup> school teachers believe students are missing out on educational opportunities because of their parent's financial situation according to exclusive new research released today.

The ASG-ACE Teachers Report Card discovered 49 per cent of government school educators believe children are missing out on educational opportunities either very often or often, compared to 31 per cent of private school teachers and just 17 per cent of educators who teach in the faith based school system.

The report, a joint initiative between ASG and the Australian College of Educators (ACE) surveyed 380 teachers and found 47 per cent of government school educators believe the level of infrastructure at their school is either inadequate or non-existent, compared to 24 per cent of private school teachers and 21 per cent of faith based school educators.

The report discovered 47 per cent of government school educators believe the use of technology in the classroom should be significantly increased or increased, compared to 35 per cent of educators in the faith based system and 30 per cent within private schools. Therefore it is unsurprising 90 per cent of government school teachers believe the increasing use of technology has either significantly enhanced or enhanced learning outcomes in the classroom, compared to 84 per cent of private school teachers.

However, the research found a quarter (25 per cent) of faith based school teachers believe technology has had a detrimental effect in the classroom, claiming technology has either decreased or significantly decreased learning outcomes.

The ASG-ACE Teachers Report Card also revealed 33 per cent of pre-school teachers believe the use of technology in the classroom should be reduced or significantly reduced.

However, 47 per cent of teachers based in regional areas would like the use of technology in the classroom to be either significantly increased or increased compared to 35 per cent of their metropolitan based contemporaries.

ASG CEO John Velegrinis says the report is an insightful snapshot of teachers' beliefs regarding investment, infrastructure and technology at their school.

"We've heard the opinions of teachers who are at the coal face of the profession, day in, day out.

"Teachers, irrespective of the school type or the subjects they teach play a valuable and inspirational role in the development of our young people.

"It's concerning some teachers believe their students are more likely to miss out because ASG advocates that there should be no barriers to education and that all children should

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<sup>1</sup> *Government schools – a school that is conducted by or on behalf of the government of a state or territory. Faith based schools – these are sometimes known as systemic schools i.e. managed by a centralised system authority and some are independent schools. Private schools – some private schools are also classified as independent schools i.e. set up and governed on an individual school basis and answerable to a governing board or management committee.*

receive a quality education regardless of their background. These issues need to be addressed by the government within holistic education policy measures," said Mr Velegrinis.

The Australian College of Educators is a professional association that represents teachers across all sectors and systems. CEO Helen Jentz says it is important educators are offered the resources they need to shine.

"The survey reveals the challenges teachers, regardless of school type, face on a daily basis.

"It's heartening the vast majority of educators are satisfied and are proud of what they do, but more needs to be done. We all have a role to play to ensure investment, infrastructure and technology opportunities at schools are improved and the standing of the teaching profession is more valued by the broader public," said Ms Jentz.

For more information about ASG call 131 ASG (131 274) or visit [www.asg.com.au](http://www.asg.com.au)

For more information about ACE call 03 9035 5473 or visit [www.austcolled.com.au](http://www.austcolled.com.au)

### **Editor's notes**

*The Australian Scholarships Group (ASG) is a member owned organisation, helping to create educational opportunities for children. ASG has been helping families and their children for more than 40 years. During this time, more than 530,000 children have been enrolled with ASG and more than \$2.5 billion in education benefits and scholarship payments returned to members. For more information visit: [www.asg.com.au](http://www.asg.com.au)*

*The Australian College of Educators (ACE) provides a collective voice for all Australian educators. It advocates, leads and drives positive change and encourages open, collaborative discussion to enable their broad membership to provide the best outcomes for Australian students across all levels of education.*

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