



**Media Release**  
**Thursday, 27 May 2010**

## Grant used to grow fresh crop at Kensington Public School

Students at Kensington Public School are learning the importance of sustainable living, thanks to a grant from Teachers Credit Union.

The school will use the \$4200 grant from the credit union to create a school vegetable garden including the purchase of gardening essentials such as tools, soil, seeds, netting for bird protection, an irrigation system and kitchen equipment to cook the produce.

Louise Steiner, Assistant Principal of Kensington Public School, said "The teaching garden will complement the school's strong environmental program that includes water tanks, solar panels and the recent upgrade of the staff room, turning it into a teaching kitchen. Students will plant and harvest the crops, creating further awareness of the environment and healthy eating habits.

"The program is not only bringing awareness of sustainability to the students but also to the community. We've had support from local businesses and members of the community, volunteering to help clear the land, set up a worm farm and install composting bins, all in preparation for garden beds to be planted."

Steve James, CEO of Teachers Credit Union, said the Teachers Environment Fund was formed to assist public schools and TAFEs in their long-term sustainability.

"Through the Teachers Environment Fund, the credit union is helping teachers bring to life their environmental projects. We want to support projects which provide a resource for the school as well as a practical teaching example that embeds sustainability into children's thinking.

"The Teachers Credit Union grants can be used for any suitable environment project such as water and energy saving, composting and recycling, tree planting and even growing a vegetable garden," Mr James said.

Kensington Public School is one of nine educational facilities - and the only one in the Eastern Suburbs - to receive a Teachers Environment Fund grant in the May 2010 round.

To date the Teachers Environment Fund has distributed over \$110,000 to 34 schools and TAFEs across NSW, ACT, NT and WA.

Find out more about Teachers Credit Union at [www.teacherscreditunion.com.au](http://www.teacherscreditunion.com.au)

**Photo opportunities available upon request.**

**Ends**

### **About Teachers Credit Union**

Teachers Credit Union is one of the largest credit unions in Australia with more than 155,000 members, assets of \$2.9 billion and the highest member retention rate of any Australian credit union.

The Teachers Environment Fund is a Teachers Credit Union initiative to assist public schools and TAFEs in their long-term sustainability. Applications for the next round of funding open in August.

For further enquiries on how to become a member or to apply for a grant, please visit the website on [www.teacherscreditunion.com.au](http://www.teacherscreditunion.com.au)

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