



This week's stories from the media

- SA government hails phone ban success
- Clare's deadline to sign up to funding deal
- Uni researching kids at risk of radicalisation
- Teachers code of conduct
- New IT tools to catch students using generative AI
- Kindy childcare trial starts in SA

Clare Issues Funding Deadline

Federal Education Minister Jason Clare has imposed a two-month deadline to sign up on the states who have not accepted his \$16bn school funding deal.

On Wednesday, he released the terms of the agreement, which ties funding to student achievement and completion benchmarks.

States unhappy with the deal, including NSW, SA, Tasmania, Queensland and the ACT, say he bypassed them by handing the draft legislation down to state treasurers instead of education ministers.

Minister Clare has offered to increase the Commonwealth's share of school funding to 22.5% from the current 20%, and to strike a deal each state would need to up its share to meet 100%.

The unhappy states want the federal government to instead increase its share from 20% to 25%.

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SA Government Hails Success Of High School Phone Ban

It's one year since mobile phones were banned in public South Australian high schools.

Despite the continued emergence of school fight videos, there's a trend that shows it is working.

Critical incidents in schools involving social media have decreased by about two thirds after mobile phones were banned in public high schools a year ago.

Incident reporting data revealed there has been a 63% decline in incidents involving social media so far in 2024 compared with the first two terms in 2023 before the phone ban.

Critical incidents involving social media include cyber bullying, circulation of explicit images or derogatory content posted online.

Analysis of the data revealed the majority of the issues occurred off school premises and outside of school hours.

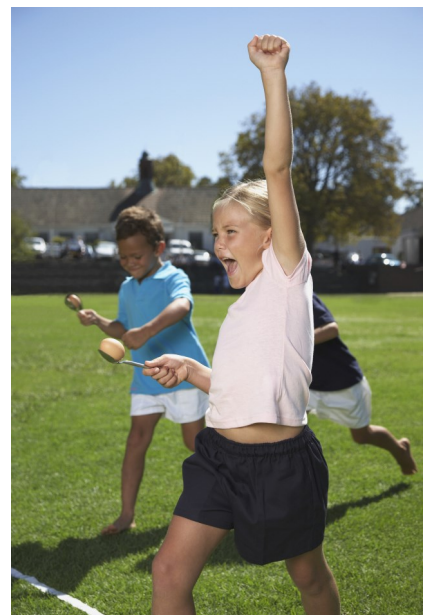
Premier Peter Malinauskas said "the evidence is in" on the efficacy of the phone ban.

"Children are playing with each other, not on their phones and there has been a reduction in inappropriate behaviour," Mr Malinauskas said.

Education Minister Blair Boyer said the phone ban was helping in "ensuring schools are safe environments".

Education Department CE Professor Martin Westwell said he was "pleased to hear anecdotal reports of changes in student behaviour reflected through increases in physical activity and play".

[More](#)



“...a 63% decline in incidents involving social media so far in 2024 compared with the first two terms in 2023 before the phone ban....”

Adelaide Uni Researching Kids At Risk Of Radicalisation

Violent far right nationalists, misogynists and conspiracy theorists’ efforts to recruit our kids will be going under a microscope.

Adelaide University is set to develop a program to analyse the digital pathways young Australians are accessing extremist content online.

The program will target violent ideologies of religious groups, far-right nationalists, sovereign citizens, violent misogynist movements and others who operate unimpeded.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Anton Middelberg said the research was vital to understanding the ever-evolving dangers of online networks.

It will be the first national-scale survey that looks into the types of online extremist ideologies that have the potential to target, or are accessible to young people.

Director-General of ASIO, Mike Burgess has previously said that children as young as 13 are now embracing extremism.

[More](#)

Teachers Code Of Conduct Lays Down Lore

A new code of conduct for SA teachers warns educators to engage in activism that does “not create conflict” for students or colleagues, and to “refrain” from engaging in sexual relationships with former students.

The new code came into effect on August 1.

“Relationships with former students are extremely risky for teachers and it is easy to breach professional standards....”

“If a teacher does commence a relationship with a former student at a school where they taught, then it would be reasonable that the relationship would be investigated....”

“The guidelines attached to the SA code also advise that teachers should reject friend requests on social media from students....”

The SA code is less focussed on specific unacceptable behaviours when compared to other states....

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New IT Tools To Catch AI

New tech can now flag when students use AI paraphrasing services to cover up using generative AI services like ChatGPT to write essays and assessments.

Turnitin, a company that offers services that can detect plagiarism and AI use in documents, last year released writing detection technology that identifies when students use generative AI to do assessments.

“One of the things we heard a lot from universities and schools was that there's other tools out there which are essentially designed to try and mask the use of generative AI tools.”

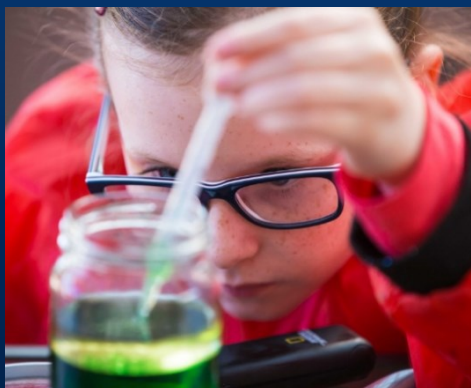
“Humans, when we write we do it completely differently. We don't go word by word and we're much, much less predictable.

[Full Story](#)

National Science Week

August 10 - 18

Species Survival – More Than Just Sustainability.



Kindy Childcare Trial In SA

The state-first trial of after preschool care has started in the first of 20 government preschools across SA this week.

Kindy Care will help support families who are increasingly needing care for their children outside of the regular preschool hours.

Families rely on OSHC for their school-aged children, but often OSHC services are not set up for preschool-aged children and do not generally accept enrolments for preschoolers.

The general sessional hours of 9am-3pm do not offer flexibility and can make decisions more difficult for working families due to accessibility.

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