



**MINISTRY OF TREASURY  
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER**

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

**EDUCATION SUBSIDY IN 2008**

In national newspapers of 23 January 2008 it was reported that the Department of Education has announced recommended maximum school fees for 2008.

The Minister for Treasury and Finance, Hon. Patrick Pruaitch said today that he wanted to remind the Education Department, school boards and worried parents of school children that the Government made a purposeful decision in handing down the 2008 Budget to continue the additional K100 million subsidy for school fees in 2008 first provided in 2007. This is in addition to the K43 million that is also provided for school fees in the ongoing Budget for 2008.

Minister Pruaitch said that the total of K143 million provided under the 2008 Budget for school fee subsidies needs to be reflected in the effective school fees paid by parents. He said that the Government understands the substantial burden that school fees places on families and the Government is keen to reduce that burden when it is fiscally prudent to do so. He commented that taking the Government's school fees subsidies into account, that parents' overall school fee position should be similar to that experienced in 2007.

Minister Pruaitch also noted that warrants for half of the school fees subsidies for 2008 amounting to K72.5 million have already been issued, so these funds are already available to the Department of Education to use for this purpose. He called upon the Education Department to clarify the interaction of the Government subsidy for school fees with the recommended fees that have been announced so that school boards can make it clear to parents what their position is.

**Endorsed by:           Hon. Patrick Pruaitch, MP  
                                  Minister for Treasury and Finance  
                                  23 January 2008**