

■ **Unborn kids enrolled to study**

■ **Top schools booked to 2018**

■ **Names in queue before conception**

Class womb rush

PARENTS are trying to enrol unborn children in a desperate attempt to score a place at the state's most exclusive private schools.

Expectant mothers are taking their ultrasounds to schools to prove they are having a baby in an attempt to get on the waiting list.

Principals are advising parents to register their children for secondary school as soon as they're born — 13 years before they start year 7.

Some exclusive schools are

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already booked up for 2018 and taking applications for 2021.

The extraordinary waiting lists come after revelations that top independent schools are now charging as much as \$15,000 for prep and up to \$20,000 for year 12.

Schools also charge parents at least \$100 to register a child on waiting lists.

Cases include:

A PARENT ringing to ensure her child — which she planned to have in 18 months but had

HOMework HELP FOR BATTLERS

STRUGGLING students would get help from specialised tutors under a plan to set up homework centres.

Students would complete homework under supervision, with special attention to

not yet conceived — could get a place at a school's kindergarten along with her sibling.

A NEW mum calling an exclusive girls' school from the hospital just after giving birth to try to enrol her baby.

those battling with reading, writing and maths.

The \$900 million plan will be outlined today by Premier Steve Bracks, who wants funding from Canberra.

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DADS ringing a top boys school on the way home from the hospital to enrol their newborn sons.

PARENTS ringing the school every day for three months to try to secure an enrolment.

Carey Baptist Grammar principal Phil De Young said demand was strong.

Mr De Young told parents who wanted their child, especially boys, to start at Carey to enrol as early as possible.

"Enrol him at birth," he said.

Lauriston Girls School director of admissions Di Bamba said she had many pregnant mums trying to register their children.

"They come in with the scan to prove they are pregnant," Ms Bamba said. "They just don't want to wait."

She said demand was very

strong for their early learning and kindergarten programs, as well as primary and secondary schooling.

Ms Bamba said one mum rang her from hospital after giving birth, while another caller was thinking about having a child in 18 months.

Methodist Ladies College principal Rosa Storelli received very early applications.

"As soon as people are pregnant they will register on our list," Ms Storelli said.

She said there is huge demand for their early learning education — which takes children from six weeks old.