



Australian Parents  
for Climate Action

## PRESS RELEASE

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### International Parents And Grandparents Statement For A Safe, Just and Clean Future

*34 parents groups from 16 countries answer the Youth Global Climate Strike with a call to advocate, act and vote to avoid catastrophic climate change*

**[Brisbane, Australia, April 3]:** On March 15, 2019, 1.6 million students from around the world marched to denounce the catastrophic gap between current efforts to rein in greenhouse gas emissions and the action necessary to keep warming to no more than 1.5 degree Celsius (°C). “The courage needed to climate strike for future awakes hope in others” explained Janine O’Keefe, mom of three strikers living in Stockholm.

In a statement published today, 34 parents groups from 16 countries on 4 continents are uniting behind the youth strikers’ demands and the recommendations of the scientific community. They demand that their governments implement the Paris Agreement and follow the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change special report](#) to prevent warming of more than 1.5°C. The letter calls on all parents to act now for a safe future for their kids by advocating, supporting and voting for policies which support an elimination of worldwide emissions in a timeframe consistent with the 1.5°C limit.

Australian Parents for Climate Action have signed the letter.

“As a parent it’s my responsibility to give my son the best chance of a healthy, safe and thriving life,” says Marie Carvolth, mother of one from the Gold Coast, and a member of Australian Parents for Climate Action “Climate change threatens every aspect of that. The climate crisis already threatens our beach-going lifestyle, our city’s tourism economy, and our resilience to floods, storms and bushfires.”

“Our children are going to pay the price for our mistakes. Not acceptable to me. I cannot leave my children to the misery that I cannot even bear to think.” says Bahvreen, mother of twins girls, living in India “As parent, I am doing all it takes to raise responsible and conscious citizens, I want my government to act and ensure that their future is not marred by climate change.”

A global conscience around the urgency to act again the climate crisis has been emerging in the past several months. Parents worldwide are the latest to add their voices for critical actions against climate change after the recent letters signed by over 23,500 scientists (published in the [US](#), [UK](#) and in [Europe](#)) in support of the global youth climate strike and of immediate actions to decarbonize world economies.



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“Tackling climate change has to be the challenge of this century, says Rowan, mom of 2 in the UK, There are policies available, what’s missing at the moment is political will to implement them. Collectively we have power; acting together with the inspiring school strikers, parents, grandparents and all people who care about the future need to make world leaders take decisions to address climate change; and to do it fast.”

The letter was started and initially signed by groups representing an estimate of 50,000 parents. They have been rapidly joined by other citizen-led organizations supporting the statement, such as Citoyens Pour Le Climat (France), Ciudadanos por un Clima Vivible (Panama), Writers For Future (Germany) or Fossil Free South Africa (South Africa). The statement is open for all organizations and parents to support.

Considering global climate justice, in Australia the path to a full decarbonization of the economy has to take place more quickly. Australian Parents for Climate Action are calling on the Australian government to set a goal of 100% renewables by 2030 or sooner, to say no to new coal and gas projects, and to Stop Adani, in line with the asks of the Australian School Strikers, whose demands we also support. We are also calling for a national climate emergency declaration.

“As a “parent for future” I want anyone standing for election to know they must address the climate crisis, this number one threat to our kids, if they hope to represent us in Parliament. Especially when solutions like affordable and clean renewable energy are readily available,” says Heidi Edmonds a mother of two from Brisbane and co-founder of Australian Parents for Climate Action.

“I see it as part of my role as a parent to try to protect the world that my children will inherit,” says Eve White from Tasmania, a mother of two. “Climate change will make my kids’ lives much harder than my life has been in many ways. This is incredibly unfair, especially as scientists have been warning us about this for decades and the solutions are available. We can still save much of what we love about this world for our children. So why aren’t we doing it - urgently?”

The full statement and an updated list of signatories can be found at <https://parentsforfuture.org/actnow>. A link to the form to sign on in support of the statement is available at this same url.

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**Australian Parents for Climate Action**

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