

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
02 May 2017



Funding announcement for Independent schools a positive step

The Independent schools Council of Australia (ISCA) today welcomed the Government's announcement of increased funding for non-government schools over a 10 year period.

The proposed *Quality Schools* reforms will see all schools and states transition to an equal Commonwealth share of the Schooling Resource Standard in a decade, with the Commonwealth share rising from 77 per cent to 80 per cent for non-government schools. This announcement is the first step to allowing schools to undertake urgently required financial planning.

ISCA Executive Director Colette Colman said that, "We appreciate the recognition of the needs of the Independent sector. We look forward to working with the government on the particulars of how the proposed changes will be implemented during that 10 year time frame, and to examining how they will impact individual schools in the Independent sector."

She went on to say that, "The urgency to implement the current funding model four years ago resulted in some inconsistencies in the model. We welcome the Government's attempt to make the new model more consistent in application."

ISCA also welcomed the Government's commitment to equitable funding for students with disability.

Ms Colman added that, "The appointment of Mr David Gonski AC to undertake a further review aimed at improving results for Australian students is also welcomed. ISCA enjoyed a positive working relationship with Mr Gonski during the previous review and we look forward to working with him again."

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