

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
30 April 2018



Independent schools welcome latest Gonski report

The Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA) today welcomed the release of *Through Growth to Achievement*, the report of the *Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools* led by Mr David Gonski AC.

ISCA Executive Director Colette Colman said that “ISCA commends the Review Panel for the extensive consultations and consideration given to the development of their recommendations.”

ISCA's submission to the Review highlighted the importance of a focus on continuous improvement rather than seeking to find a single "magic bullet". ISCA is pleased that the Review's recommendations reflect a multi-faceted, integrated response to the challenges outlined in the Report.

The recommendations complement and support initiatives and innovation in Independent schools, including in the areas of principal professional autonomy, professional learning and mentoring. This builds on important work already underway by organisations including ACARA, AITSL, and state and territory Associations of Independent Schools.

ISCA also welcomes the recommendation for an independent institution to coordinate the development of a national research and evidence base for good educational research. This reflects recent expert commentary supporting the need for schools to have access to quality, evidence-based research.

Ms Colman said that, “The Independent school sector looks forward to working with Commonwealth, state and territory governments on the implementation of the recommendations with a view to making a positive difference to the learning outcomes for all students across Australia.”

ISCA's submission to the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools can be read at: <http://isca.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2017-11-01-Submission-to-the-Review-to-Achieve-Educational-Excellence-in-Australian-Schools.pdf>

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