

# Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Independent Schools  
Council of Australia

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## ISCA Congratulates New Ministers

The Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA) has welcomed the appointments of The Hon. Christopher Pyne MP as Minister for Education, The Hon. Sussan Ley MP as Assistant Minister for Education and Senator Scott Ryan as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education.

ISCA Executive Director, Mr Bill Daniels said that he looked forward to working with Mr Pyne and Ms Ley on a wide range of education related issues, particularly those that will affect the independent schools sector.

Mr Daniels said, “Christopher Pyne has extensive knowledge of the Australian school system and we look forward to working with him to simplify the complexities inherent in the new funding arrangements.”

The independent sector welcomed the announcement by the Coalition before the election that it will match the Commonwealth funding committed by the previous Government over the next four years. Especially welcome is the Coalition Government’s commitment to more equitable funding through the additional loadings for students with disability that will apply equally to students in both government and non-government schools.

The Coalition’s commitment to removing unnecessary red-tape and regulation from the Australian Education Act has also been well received by the Independent sector. Autonomy is a core feature of the high quality of education delivered by independent schools. It is particularly important in achieving positive outcomes for students in Indigenous community schools, schools with alternative philosophies, and schools serving students with special and other high level needs.

“Over regulation of schools and equitable funding for students with disabilities are of significant concern to independent school communities and we looking forward to working with Mr Pyne and Ms Ley to ensure these commitments are successfully implemented.” concluded Mr Daniels.

ENDS

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