MR MORRISON, DON'T FAIL OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

FAIR FUNDING NOW!

Dear Prime Minister

We, the undersigned, share a passion and commitment to ensuring the needs of every child are met and every child is able to succeed.

Your recent announcement of a $4.6 billion special funding deal for Catholic and Independent schools ignored the majority of Australian children who are educated in public schools.

Not one single dollar was promised for funding these students. Yet $1.9 billion of planned spending under the original Gonski agreement was cut from public school budgets in 2018–2019. This impacts most severely on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children with disability and children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We are very proud of our public schools and the committed principals, teachers and support staff who work with our students. However, they need to be properly funded to ensure extra staff, smaller class sizes, more one-one-one support and improved facilities.

Under your plan, 87% of public schools will stay below the minimum level of funding required to meet the educational needs of their students by 2023, while **private schools, the vast majority of whom will be above that benchmark, will receive a special deal of $4.6 billion.**

Your plan also provides a $1.9 billion capital works special deal for private schools while public schools receive not one dollar from the Commonwealth for capital works.

That is not equitable, nor is it sector-blind or needs-based.

WE ARE CALLING ON YOUR GOVERNMENT TO:

- ✓ Immediately restore the $1.9 billion cut to public schools
- ✓ Fund all schools to 100% of the agreed Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) by 2023
- ✓ Upgrade schools and facilities by establishing a capital works fund for public schools
- ✓ Reverse the cuts to funding for students with disability.

Our children only get one chance at a quality education. We are calling for you to help them all reach their potential and properly resource all schools to meet the unique needs of every child.

Yours sincerely

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