



Pre-Budget Submission Full Funding

The P&C Federation represents a collective voice of parents, guardians, and community members dedicated to supporting public schools across New South Wales. This submission advocates for critical reforms in the funding of public education, specifically, the need to fully fund NSW public schools to the School Resource Standard (SRS) levels and to eliminate the unjust 4% accounting charge that unfairly burdens these institutions.

1. Commitment to Full SRS Funding:

The SRS, as established by the Gonski Review, is designed to ensure that every school has the resources necessary to provide their students with a high-quality education. Despite this, NSW public schools have consistently been funded below these critical levels, resulting in a significant resource gap. This underfunding not only compromises the quality of education but also widens the inequity gap among students from different socio-economic backgrounds. As representatives of parents and the broader community, we urge the NSW Government to work with the Commonwealth Government and ensure that public schools receive 100% of the SRS funding. This commitment is essential for providing equitable access to quality education for all students, irrespective of their socio-economic status or geographic location.

2. Abolition of the 4% Accounting Charge:

Our federation also calls for the immediate removal of the 4% efficiency dividend applied exclusively to public schools. This accounting measure unjustly reduces the budget available for essential resources and directly impacts the quality of education that our children receive. The \$660 million annual cost of this charge to NSW government schools is a substantial financial burden that undermines the state's investment in public education. By eliminating this charge, the NSW Government can demonstrate its genuine commitment to supporting public education and ensuring that funds are directly allocated to where they are most needed - in the classrooms, supporting student learning and wellbeing.

3. Establish a fund for school infrastructure

The P&C Federation calls for the NSW Government to establish a fund for school infrastructure outside the SRS, to address the historic under-investment in government school facilities.

The Importance of Action:

The P&C Federation believes that public education is the cornerstone of a fair society. Investing in our public schools is an investment in the future of our children and our state. The upcoming budget presents a vital opportunity to rectify longstanding inequities and to lay the foundation for a stronger, more inclusive education system. By fully funding public schools to the SRS levels and removing the 4% accounting charge, the NSW Government can make a significant, positive impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of students across the state.

We urge the NSW Government to consider these proposals as crucial steps towards fulfilling its commitment to providing a high-quality, equitable education for all students in New South Wales. The P&C Federation is ready to work collaboratively with the government to achieve these goals.