

Stop Devaluing Public Education: The Heart of Communities

P&C Federation is extremely disappointed that the Federal Government's funding model is devaluing public school students after a new data reveals Gonski 2.0 will over-fund rich private schools.

According to the Education Research Paper from Save Our Schools, "Gonski 2.0 caps Commonwealth funding of public schools at 20% of their Schooling Resource Standard (SRS), but state/territory government funding is well below 80% of the SRS." This essentially means that the State Government needs to step up and address the discrepancies in education funding by increasing its share of funding of public schools from the current 71% to 80%.

P&C Federation Vice President Joel Matthews commented, "It's high time the state government stepped up to bridge this gap in education funding and stopped cheating our children by NOT providing them the funding they need to reach the SRS."

"It is appalling that if Gonski 2.0 is implemented in full, with current state funding public schools in NSW will only be funded at 91% whereas the private schools will be funded at 107%. Where is the equity for all?"

Mr Matthews went on to say, "Our children and their education don't deserve to be the puppets of ministers and their political expediencies. Equity should be provided so no child is left behind."

Data released by Australian Bureau of Statistics confirms enrolments in public schools have surged considerably, as more and more families are turning to public education instead of private schools. "How does the government expect our public schools to offer an equitable education system when the funding system they provide is discriminative."

"Funding our public schools should be top priority of all governments. Denying these funds would be devaluing our public education system and the consequences will be not only be detrimental but irrevocable."

"We call on the state government to cut funding of over-funded private schools, divert these to under-funded public schools and secure the future of our public education system."

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