Meeting with Local Members of Parliament (Federal/State)

Making contact with your local member

> Form a representative group to speak with sitting members (individual approaches are also valuable).

> Consider joining with neighbouring schools in your electorate.

> Contact the local member to seek a meeting to discuss the needs of Independent schools especially in the context of your own school.

> Make a time for the meeting and indicate the number, and if possible names, of people who will be attending. A meeting of ½ hour is generally considered appropriate.

> Determine the venue. You may wish to invite the sitting member/candidate to your school. However, due to time constraints it may be easier for them to meet in their office.

> Meet as a delegation prior to the meeting to determine the presentation and discussion for the meeting.

General Tips for the Meeting

> Prepare beforehand:

  > Find out about the person you are meeting, for example from their Party’s website.

  > Know the key education policies of each political Party.

  > Determine your objectives and key messages for the meeting.

  > Plan who/how many will speak and who will take notes.

  > Be aware of counter arguments which may be presented

  > Determine what material to leave with them and nominate a spokesperson to lead the delegation.

> Talk to Garry Le Duff, AISSA, if you need any advice or further information prior to the meeting

> Introduce each member of the delegation and indicate their role, for example, parent representative. Thank the sitting member for taking the time to meet with you. Provide your contact details.

> Be clear and concise in presenting your arguments and stay on topic.

> Listen to what they say.

> Be polite and patient even when they disagree with your points. Focus on your key messages.

> Re-state what (if anything) has been agreed in the meeting and any further action to be undertaken. Thank them for their time.

Federal Members of Parliament List - SA


State Members of Parliament List - SA

http://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/Members/Pages/List%20of%20All%20Members.aspx