Seven Key Messages for Politicians

- Parents have a right to choose the school that best meets the needs of their children and as tax payers are entitled to government funding to support their children’s education.

- No Independent school student or family should be disadvantaged by the introduction of new funding arrangements.

- No school should be financially disadvantaged by the introduction of new funding arrangements.

- Independent schools need urgent information about their actual government funding levels for 2014, and how the new funding model will impact on their long-term funding, to enable them to plan.

- Funding for students with disabilities must be increased as a matter of priority. Students with disabilities should be fully funded regardless of the sector they are educated in and this funding should be a true reflection of the costs of educating these students and consistent across the States and Territories.

- Indexation must be in line with the real movements in the cost of education to ensure schools can continue to provide high quality education to all students.

- Access to support services and professional development through an efficient and effective administrative support model, such as the one provided by AISSA, is essential to supporting the needs of disadvantaged students and enhancing educational outcomes for all students.