



MEDIA STATEMENT

To Chief of Staff/News Editor
From Garry Le Duff
Ref **Education Revolution funding to be celebrated**
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EDUCATION REVOLUTION FUNDING TO BE CELEBRATED

The welcome creation of new school facilities through the Federal Government's Building the Education Revolution is to be celebrated for what it is – good news for schools, students, communities and local economies.

The Association of Independent Schools of SA Executive Director Garry Le Duff said the Association congratulates the Federal Government for its capital works initiative.

"This is the first major capital investment across the Independent school sector," said Mr Le Duff.

"It's a terrific opportunity to modernise school design and facilities that enable innovative methods of teaching and learning. Each recipient school has a well-prepared master plan and this creates the opportunity to fast-track some of that plan.

"Independent schools are very grateful for this help, which supports the substantial efforts of parents and school communities that raise up to 100 percent of building funds for their schools.

"Indeed, for many of the Independent schools, it will be the first time in decades – if ever – that they have received capital funding from Government. Until now it has been the parents and school communities who have wholly paid for and built these schools."

Independent schools will use their grants for new resource centres, halls and facilities and to refurbish buildings, install sun protection in outdoor areas, upgrade special learning needs facilities and improve recreation and sporting facilities, among other initiatives.

"Our schools have very strong relationships with architects and builders who design purpose-built facilities to suit a school environment," said Mr Le Duff.

"The Commonwealth set the criteria for eligibility and level of funding. Every Independent school to receive funds had to meet the criteria. All projects are approved under strict guidelines, including the nature of the structure to be built.

"We are most confident that this Commonwealth initiative will meet the twin objectives to improve school facilities and give a shot in the arm to the building industry and local economies."

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