



MEDIA STATEMENT

To News Editor/Chief of Staff
From Garry Le Duff
Ref **How your taxes fund schools – a message for Independent school parents**
Date 20 February 2012

HOW YOUR TAXES FUND SCHOOLS

The Association of Independent Schools of SA (AISSA) has written to all member schools to provide information on funding that they can share with parents and others in the school community.

AISSA Executive Director Garry Le Duff said the AISSA had developed the fact sheet *How Your Taxes Fund Schools* (see attached) in response to misleading claims about school funding currently in the media.

"A number of schools have received feedback from concerned parents about this issue, in particular in response to the current AEU campaign," said Mr Le Duff.

"The report from the Gonski Review of Funding for Schooling is scheduled for release on Monday 20 February and it is likely that an increased focus on non-government school funding will result from this release."

The fact sheet shows that the average total government spending (State and Commonwealth) per student in 2009/10 was \$13,909 for government school students and \$7,121 for non-government school students.

It is important to note that many schools in the Independent sector in South Australia receive significantly less than the average funding per student.

The fact sheet has been developed to provide support for member schools in countering misleading claims. It has been designed for easy inclusion in school newsletters and/or for electronic distribution to parents and others in the community.

"It is important that parent communities are fully informed about the facts of how governments fund schools prior to the release of the Gonski report," said Mr Le Duff.

Contact: Garry Le Duff, Tel: 8179 1402(W), 8339 2106(A/H) or 0419 806 419