All Australian children deserve government funding to support their education. Education is an investment in Australia’s future. So, it makes good sense for governments to invest in the education of all Australian children.

Authorised by Garry Le Duff, Executive Director, AISSA, 301 Unley Rd Malvern SA 5061.
Commonwealth Funding

> The Commonwealth Government is the major provider of government funds to SA Independent schools. The level of recurrent funding allocated to an Independent school for each student varies according to the socio-economic profile of each school community.

> Schools also receive additional funds according to the needs of some students; e.g. students with disabilities and Indigenous students.

> Commonwealth per capita (student) funding is based on a calculated socio-economic status (SES) score. The SES score operates as an overall guide to the capacity of the parents in the school community to contribute to the cost of educating their children.

> Independent schools educating students from higher socio-economic backgrounds receive less Commonwealth funding per student than Independent schools educating students from lower socio-economic backgrounds. (See graph below).

SA Independent schools receive limited funding from the SA Government

> The minimum Commonwealth (entitlement) grant allocated per student to an Independent school is 13.7% of the average cost of educating a child in a Government school.

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*Education is an investment in Australia’s future. So, it makes good sense for governments to invest in the education of all Australian children.*

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A Basic Guide to Government Funding of Independent Schools

State Funding

> SA Independent schools receive limited funding from the SA State Government. State Government funding for Independent schools incorporates a basic per capita payment and a needs component which reflects factors such as the socio-economic profile of the school community, numbers of students with special needs, Indigenous students and numbers of families on School Card.

> On average Independent schools receive approximately $1400 per student from the State Government.

Building

> Independent schools also have limited access to funding for major capital (building) works from the Commonwealth Government.

> However, parents and school communities across Australia contribute on average approximately 87% of the total costs of major capital (building) works in Independent schools. In some cases the school community is the sole source of the funds. Hence, parents and others in these school communities are making a significant contribution to education building infrastructure in South Australia through their taxes and contributions to the capital works projects in their school.

> South Australian Independent schools receive no funding for building works funding from the SA State Government.