Government funding of Independent schools varies according to needs

Independent schools educating students with higher levels of need receive more government funding than other Independent schools.

- Independent schools educating students from a lower socio-economic background receive a higher level of government funding per student than other Independent schools.
- The level of government funding for Independent schools also varies according to the numbers of students with disabilities, students with learning difficulties, families eligible for School Card and students from non-English Speaking and Indigenous backgrounds.
- Schools with students from lower socio-economic backgrounds receive the vast proportion of funding allocated by the Commonwealth Government for building programs.

State and Commonwealth Government recurrent grants (per student) for South Australian Independent schools (2003) by socio-economic profile
(Source: DEST, Advisory Committee on Non-Government Schools in South Australia Report 2003)

A Point of Interest

In South Australia government schools received $18 million in Commonwealth funding for capital works in 2003/2004. Independent schools received just $2.8 million.

Building Works

Over the last 10 years almost all of Commonwealth Government funding for South Australian Independent school building programs has been allocated to lower fee schools.