More people are choosing to educate their children in Independent schools

The South Australian Independent school sector is experiencing strong growth in enrolments.

- In 2007 in excess of 40,000 students are attending 97 South Australian Independent schools.
- Between 2001 and 2007 there has been an enrolment increase of 6362 students.
- Enrolments of students with special needs has also grown. In 2006 there were 1224 students with disabilities and 6817 students with learning difficulties.
- Enrolment growth has been most prominent in schools located in the outer suburbs and regional centres across South Australia.
- The overall increase in government funding to Independent schools is significantly linked to increases in enrolments as funding is allocated on a per student basis.


**Points of Interest**

Families choose Independent schools for a variety of reasons including:

- Preparation for children to 'fulfil their potential in life
- Good discipline
- Encouragement of a responsible attitude to work.


**Retention Rates**

In 2006 the South Australian Independent school sector had a retention rate to Year 12 of 98% (Note: Apparent Retention Rate, Source: Advisory Committee on Non-Government Schools in South Australia 2006).

**Profiling the South Australian Independent School Sector**

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