

# Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Independent Schools  
Council of Australia

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## **Changes to Indigenous Funding Support Corrects Long Standing Inequity**

The Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA) has today welcomed the announcement that the Government will increase funding to support students from remote Indigenous communities attending boarding schools.

This announcement means that schools with more than 50 students from remote indigenous communities will be eligible for a remote loading on the Indigenous Supplementary Assistance worth around \$2300 per annum for each student.

Executive Director of ISCA, Mr Bill Daniels said that this change is an important measure in supporting schools that help address the educational, socio-emotional and health needs of many Indigenous students.

“The Government’s decision will address some of the funding inequities that affect boarding schools with large indigenous enrolments,” said Mr Daniels.

“ISCA will continue to advocate that similar benefits should also be available to boarding schools irrespective of the number of Indigenous students from remote communities.”

“The schools that stand to benefit the most from today’s announcement will need to do the heavy lifting if the Governments’ targets of halving the gap in reading, writing and numeracy achievements for Indigenous students within a decade, and halving the gap for Indigenous students in year 12 attainment or equivalent rates by 2020 are to be met.”

“These changes redress a problem that has been evident for some time. The Federal Education Minister Simon Crean and the Member for Lingiari, Warren Snowdon, and the Member for Solomon, Damian Hale should be congratulated in taking measures to support the education of some of the most disadvantaged students in the country,” concluded Mr Daniels.

ENDS

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