



Media Statement

4 August 2010

Statement by Mr Bill Daniels, Executive Director, Independent Schools Council of Australia

Indexation Fundamental to Independent Schools Funding

The Government has made two very significant commitments regarding non-government schools general recurrent funding arrangements and capital grant allocations.

The commitment by the Prime Minister to maintain general recurrent funding to non-government schools in real terms in its current form to at least the end of 2013 is positive.

Indexation is fundamental for all schools and provides stability and predictability in funding so that they can continue to deliver high quality teaching and learning outcomes.

For independent schools the costs of schooling are met by parents and governments. Without indexation of government funding, the additional cost pressures imposed by the rising costs of schooling will be placed disproportionately on parents.

The independent sector will continue to advocate to the Funding Review that indexation should continue long term.

The Government's other commitment to allow forward commitments of non-government school capital projects until 2014 is greatly welcomed by ISCA.

This commitment is consistent with previous practice which ensures that independent schools can continue to plan and manage long term capital projects with confidence. This forward commitment is good news for the parents of independent school students who meet over 80 per cent of the capital cost of all independent school facilities.

The successful implementation of the Building the Education Revolution in the independent sector demonstrates how effective autonomous independent schools are in managing capital projects.

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