



15 December 2009

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Independent schools top the state in HSC**

The 2009 Higher School Certificate results saw independent school students top the state, said Dr Geoff Newcombe, Executive Director of the Association of Independent Schools of NSW.

“Independent school students took 40% of the First In Course awards in 2009, even though they made up just 24% of all the HSC candidates this year”, Dr Newcombe said.

“Equally pleasing is the fact that the students who achieved the First In Course award are from a wide range of schools that represent the full diversity of the sector.”

“Every student who completed the HSC deserves to be congratulated and can be very proud of their efforts.”

Dr Newcombe continued: “Clearly, parents who choose an independent school for their child can be confident that they will receive a high quality of education. Such a great result is testament to the commitment to excellence shown by independent schools and also to the commitment shown by these students.”

While the full range of HSC results won't be released until later in the week, Dr Newcombe said he expected the outstanding results in independent schools to be reflected right across the sector and across a wide range of categories.