



# Media Release

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## An inconvenient truth doesn't give licence to mislead on school funding

The Association of Independent Schools of NSW (AISNSW) has refuted the claims made yesterday by the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria that the new funding arrangements for non-government schools from 2019 will favour independent schools.

AISNSW Chief Executive, Dr Geoff Newcombe, said the claims were based on a selective interpretation of the funding arrangements which failed to acknowledge the fact that all Catholic school systems will receive significant annual funding increases as a result of the Gonski 2.0 funding plan.

Individual schools within Catholic systems which have been overfunded for many years will, from 2019, be funded in accordance with their actual socioeconomic status (SES) on the same basis as all other non-government schools.

For many Catholic system schools this actually means they will attract increased funding. For those where a decrease in funding applies, it simply puts their funding on the same footing as other schools.

However, the inconvenient truth which CECV has chosen not to disclose is that funding to every Catholic system authority will continue to increase each year, and each system authority will retain the ability to redistribute funding within their system to alleviate any decrease in funding to an individual school. Stand-alone independent schools do not have the same luxury.

There has been a two-speed funding system in place for many years which has heavily favoured non-government school systems over individual schools. Removing these inconsistencies, which have delivered huge amounts of additional funding to Catholic school systems for decades, does not mean that independent schools are being favoured. It simply means that all non-government schools will be funded on a consistent basis for the very first time.

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