

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0215_15

Senator O'Neill provided in writing.

Question

School resourcing

PB 3 p45 also says: "From 1 January 2014, recurrent funding to all schools and systems in Australia is based on needs-based funding arrangements contained within the Act." a. How will the Department ensure that schools are being resourced to the required standard under the National Education Reform Agreement if there is no requirement for states and territories to commit the levels of funding required?

Answer

The 2014-15 Budget delivers on the Government's schools funding commitments through investing a record \$64.5 billion in recurrent funding for government and non-government schools over the next four years. This includes reinstating the \$1.2 billion that was removed by the previous government, to ensure all jurisdictions are funded through a national needs based model.

The Commonwealth supports each jurisdiction in their budget flexibility to allocate funds to schools as it recognises states and territories are best placed to manage their schools and should not be subject to prescriptive command and control provisions.