

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 1 June 2017

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. tbc

Minister's letter to schools in May 2017

De-identified versions of the letters sent by the Minister to school principals and school P&C / P&F associations are attached.



Senator the Hon Simon Birmingham
Minister for Education and Training
Senator for South Australia

Principal

«School_Name»

«Postal_Address_Line_1»

«Suburb» «State» «Postcode»

Dear Principal

I am writing to you about the Turnbull Government's commitment to deliver on Mr David Gonski AC's recommendations for fairer, needs-based schools funding from 2018 and what it means for your school.

I'd like to acknowledge the important work you and your staff do each and every day to provide our children with the best possible start in life.

To help ensure you have the necessary funding to meet the needs of the children in your school, the Turnbull Government has announced an extra \$18.6 billion in funding on top of already record and growing funding for Australian schools over the next 10 years.

Commonwealth school funding will grow each year by more than \$1 billion. This will be real growth for students, well above inflation or wages growth. This will bring our total 10 year investment to a record \$242.3 billion.

I am pleased to advise that, based on current modelling and your latest enrolment figures as reported to the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training, «School_Name» is estimated to see an increase of «School_increase_20172018» funding from 2017 to 2018. We estimate an average annual per student increase of «Average_annual_per_student_growth_whole» per cent over the ten years that will deliver a total increase from 2017 to 2027 of «School_change_20172027».

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Yours sincerely

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To underpin our increased investment, Mr Gonski has agreed to lead the *Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools*. It will provide advice on how the extra Commonwealth funding should be invested to improve Australian schools' performance, and grow student achievement.

The Review will be finalised by the end of 2017 to align with the Australian Government's new approach to schools funding from 2018, and the findings will inform a new national schools agreement and bilateral reform plans with states and territories.

Information about the new arrangements and how they will work is available at www.education.gov.au/qualityschools. There you will find fact sheets and a 'school funding estimator' that will indicate what the new arrangements mean for your school. I encourage you to share a copy of this letter and information with your school community.

Further advice on the adjustment fund will be provided to your school once funding guidelines have been finalised.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Birmingham', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Simon Birmingham
8 May 2017