



Association of Parents and Friends of A.C.T Schools Inc

The Association of P&F's of ACT Schools Representing the Interests of ACT Non-Government School Parents

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APFACTS notes that, yet again, there is little in the ACT Budget that will reduce the burden for the parents of the 41% of children attending non-government schools in the ACT.

The Treasurer announced that non-government schools will receive an additional \$1.1 million as a result of this budget.

However, approximately \$1.0 million of this amount is for indexation – calculated at a rate far below the actual cost increases experienced by all schools.

The balance of the funds, \$0.1 million, relates to the per capita funding reflecting the shift in enrolments from the government to the non-government sector.

Also announced by the Treasurer is an amount of \$1.0m over two years to improve disability access to non-government schools. This is a redirection of funds previously allocated to non-government schools under the Interest Subsidy Scheme.

APFACTS notes that the highest priority areas for funding as identified by the parents of children attending non-government schools were largely ignored.

APFACTS's stated priority areas were: increased recurrent per capita funding, indexation aligned with the real cost increases in education, equitable funding for students with disabilities and infrastructure and IT support.

APFACTS welcomes the decision to extend the Secondary Bursary Scheme to any child in years 7-10 whose parents are holders of a Commonwealth Concession Card.

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