AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION POLICY COMPARISON MAY 2019



POLICY AREA	GREENS	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	LIBERAL/NATIONAL COALITION
SCHOOL FUNDING	By 2023 every public school in Australia will be fully funded to reach the nationally agreed standard	\$14bn more into public education over a decade. Federal funding 22.2% SRS all states and ACT, 25% for NT	By 2023 public schools to be funded 95% of SRS, with Federal funding 20% of the SRS in all jurisdictions.
EARLY CHILDHOOD	Ensure permanent universal early childhood education (preschool) for two years before school. Childcare fee free for most families. Abolish the activity test. Work to Close the Gap for First Nations children. Support educators' pay rises. Reduce waiting lists	Ensure permanent universal early childhood education (preschool) for two years before school. Childcare fee free for family incomes up to \$69K/year and \$1200 saving for middle incomes. Support 20% pay rise for educators. Hold First Nation Children's Summit. Review BBF funding.	One year prior to school universal access promised for the next 12 months in budget \$4.9 million over two years from 2019-20 to improve data collection. Fund The Smith Family to work with disadvantaged communities on strategies to improve preschool participation rates
TAFE AND UNIVERSITY	Free TAFE courses and undergraduate university study for all.	100,000 fee-free places for TAFE students. \$200m for TAFE campuses. Extra \$10 billion to universities – tied to greater accountability	\$93.7 million for 'Destination Australia' . This funds up to 4720 scholarships of max \$15K/year for domestic and international students to study at a regional university or vocational education.
CHAPLAINCY	Redirect funding for the National School Chaplaincy Program towards qualified, secular school counsellors and 'support professionals'.	Chaplaincy program extended to include the opportunity for schools to employ	Chaplaincy program funded for the next three years – Christian faith-based workers only.
CAPITAL GRANTS	Increase the Capital Grants Program funding to \$400 million a year. Expand the Program to include public schools and guarantee 80% of the fund, \$320 million per year, for public schools.	Establish a Solar Schools program to help schools cut power bills and use clean energy with access to solar panels and battery storage.	Establish a Local School Community Fund, which will provide \$200,000 to each Federal electorate to support 'priority projects' in local schools.
EVIDENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE	No new announcement here.	Create a \$280 million research institute to improve schools and early childhood education centres by ensuring teachers and parents have high quality research at their fingertips.	Committed to a research institute - details to come.
STUDENTS WITH DISABILTY	Reverse funding cuts. Ensure the disability funding tiers match actual cost of delivering high quality education to all students.	Invest extra \$300 million to ensure students with disability get the support they need at school.	No new announcement here.