



THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS

The national voice of parents of children in Australia's public schools and their school communities

Meeting the needs of students

As the year draws to an end we are seeing the schools busily preparing for end of year functions, organisations celebrating the year's successes, and jurisdictions busily negotiating the new funding arrangements.

As we approach the final Education Council meeting for the year set down for later this week many of our state educational leaders are working with their Federal counterparts to finalise and sign National Reform Agreements.

It is pleasing to see that Tasmania has signed off targeting young people with the greatest need as a priority.

Tasmania's bilateral agreement will provide schools with resources for students with the greatest need, through:

- Enabling government schools to make necessary educational adjustments for all students with disability.
- A systemic approach to addressing the needs of students with behavioural challenges that are often the result of traumatic experience.
- A systemic approach to student re-engagement with an explicit focus on the complex needs of students in Years 9 to 12.

"Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) is extremely pleased to see that the Tasmanian government has sought to target funds to support young people who are having difficulties through psycho-social trauma." stated Kevan Goodworth, Chair of the ACSSO Board. "This has been key to ACSSO's advocacy when discussing the needs-based loadings that should be applied to funding."

"These young people struggle with behaviour and focus but often go unnoticed due to no diagnosis. Their struggle is real and they are in need of additional support," Mr Goodworth continued.

"We urge other jurisdictions to consider this in their negotiations. ACSSO continues to advocate for Fair, Simple and Transparent funding that is truly needs based, supporting those students who have the most to gain from education" he concluded.

For further comment

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