



# Australian Council of State School Organisations Limited

*One voice for every child in public education*

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## **Budget first – a fairer funding model for Education**

Tuesday the 9<sup>th</sup> May sees a budget that delivers a much needed focus on a funding model that can lead to a truly needs based formula for education across the whole of our proud nation.

Speaking from Canberra today, Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) President Phillip Spratt says “ACSSO has long called for Fair, Simple, Transparent, and truly needs based funding. The move to reduce the twenty-seven funding agreements into a single model, with no special deals, may finally bring truly needs based funding to all sectors.”

The Treasurer confirmed the pre-budget announcement made last week by the Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull and Education Minister, Simon Birmingham of an additional \$18 billion over ten years

“ACSSO welcomes this approach” Mr Spratt stated “There is an increasing appreciation of the qualities and inherent strengths of public education. With the resurgence of the fully inclusive public education system across Australia, a truly needs based funding model can strip away the subjective and unfair nature of the current arrangements and special deals. This, together with the Gonski 2.0 review, will bring the opportunity to address true need in burgeoning public school enrolments.” he continued

“Perhaps now is the time to recognise that education funding is a highly complex and truly wicked problem where there can be no absolute right or wrong answers, just better or worse outcomes. This model offers a genuine opportunity for needs based education funding to be the best it can be. The hope for our children’s future demands nothing less.”

For further comment:

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