

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ16-000095

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing

Also refer to previous hearing Questions No. SQ15-000878 and SQ15-000430

Needs based funding model (SQ15-000878, SQ15-000430)

Question

This table (see attached document) is from QON SQ15-000878 - Needs based funding model

QON SQ15-000878 also states:

“For the purposes of the Budget, the redistribution policy has only been applied to the government sector.” [ATTACHMENT H]

- (a) Will the government re-distribute non-government school funding in 2018? How will that be done?
- (b) Is it fair that catholic schools in the NT will only get 64% of the SRS while in Victoria they will get 75%? Even though the NT has a high level of need?
- (c) Is it fair that Independent schools in SA will get 68% of the SRS but those in NSW will get 73%?
- (d) Will the government rule out cutting money from schools in some states to increase funding in others?
- (e) Can the Government rule out a school funding/indexation policy that will simply act to amplify or index the inequality between the states that will exist because the Government has cut the last two years of the Gonski reforms?

Answer

- a. The Australian Government has foreshadowed an indicative redistribution of funding from 2018 as a basis for formal discussions with all states and territories and non-government education authorities.
- b. Commonwealth funding as a percentage of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) is governed by historic funding levels, transition arrangements and differential indexation rates negotiated by the previous government. The Government will hold discussions regarding school funding from 2018 with all states and territories and non-government education authorities.
- c. Commonwealth funding as a percentage of the SRS is governed by historic funding levels, transition arrangements and differential indexation rates negotiated by the previous government. The Government will hold discussions with all states and territories and non-government education authorities on schools funding arrangements from 2018.

- e. School funding allocations from 2018 are indicative only. The Government has foreshadowed an indicative redistribution of funding for government schools from 2018 as a basis for formal discussions with all states and territories and non-government education authorities.
- f. Any inequality of Commonwealth funding in 2017 is a product of the transition and indexation arrangements under the Act as negotiated by the previous government. The Government will hold discussions with government and non-government education authorities on schools funding arrangements from 2018.