

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Outcome 2 - Schools and Youth

Department of Education Question No. ED0026_14

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Question

Evidence for a needs based funding model

What evidence has the department compiled to support a needs based funding model for Australian schools? Can a list of the reports and studies that form this body of evidence be provided?

Answer

The Department of Education considered a broad range of evidence in relation to student need and funding.

Primarily, the Department considered the detailed analysis, research and findings of the Final Report, December 2011, of the Review of Funding for Schooling, which was undertaken by David Gonski AC, Chair, Ken Boston AO, Kathryn Greiner AO, Carmen Lawrence, Bill Scales AO and Peter Tannock AM.

The Department also drew on the work of several independent reports commissioned for the School Funding Panel, including:

- ACER, 2011, Assessment of current processes for targeting of schools funding to disadvantaged students, a report prepared for the Review of Funding for Schooling Panel.
- The Nous Group 2011, Schooling challenges and opportunities, report prepared for the Review of Funding for Schooling panel.
- The Allen Consulting Group, 2011, Feasibility of a National Schooling Recurrent Resource Standard, prepared for the Australian Government Review of Funding for Schooling.
- Deloitte Access Economics, Assessing existing funding models for schooling in Australia, report prepared for the Australian Government Review of Funding for Schooling June 2011.
- DSI Consulting, An Exploratory Analysis of Factors Affecting School Productivity as Measured by 2010 NAPLAN Performance, October 2011.
- Australian Council for Educational Research, Development of a NAPLAN Composite Index and its relationship to school characteristics, prepared for the Allen Consulting Group, December 2011.

- The Allen Consulting Group, Schooling Resource Standard – Technical Report, prepared for the Australian Government Review of Funding for Schooling, 2012 University of Melbourne, Centre for Research on Education Systems, Selecting reference schools to estimate a national resource standard: which measures of student outcome? 2011.

Further, there is a broad range of evidence and reports that consider the link between educational disadvantage and student outcomes. Other evidence considered includes:

- Angus, M, Olney, H, Ainley, J, Caldwell, B, Burke, G, Selleck, R & Spinks, J 2004, The Sufficiency of Resources for Australian Primary Schools, for the Department of Education Science and Training.
- OECD, 2010, Pisa 2009 Results, OECD.
- W. Norton Grubb, The Money Myth: School Resources, Outcomes, and Equity, Russel Sage Foundation 2011.
- Perry, L & McConney, A 2010 'School socioeconomic composition and student outcomes in Australia: Implications for educational policy', Australian Journal of Education, vol. 54 (1), pp 72–85.
- Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs, Analysis of national dataset—Non-financial data, Strategic Policy Working Group, MCEECDYA, 2011, Melbourne.
- M Fazekas, School Funding Formulas – review of main characteristics and impacts, OECD Education Working Paper no 74, Directorate for Education, 2012.
- Buddelmeyer H, Hanel B, and Polidano C, 2011, The effect of schools in retaining disadvantaged youth in education, commissioned by DEEWR.
- Coelli, M, 2010, The Forgotten Second Quartile: Parental Income and Youth Post-Secondary Education Enrolment in Australia, The University of Melbourne.
- MCEETYA (2006) Funding for English as a Second Language New Arrival Students, Discussion Paper, Schools Resourcing Taskforce.
- Productivity Commission, 2006, Economic impacts of migration and population growth, Canberra.
- Productivity Commission, 2012, The Teacher Workforce, Canberra
- Presentation by NSW Department of Communities to DEEWR, 24 April 2012
- 2010 National Schools Statistics Collection.
- ACER, 2010, Challenges for Australian education: results from PISA 2009: the PISA 2009 assessment of students' reading, mathematical and scientific literacy.
- ABS, 2011, Schools, Australia, 2010, Cat No. 4221.0.