



New South Wales Teachers Federation
a branch of the Australian Education Union

AEU NSW Teachers Federation Branch ABN 86 600 150 697

Locked Bag N° 3010, Darlinghurst NSW 1300 • 02 9217 2100 • www.nswtf.org.au
NSW PRESIDENT: Maurie Mulheron • NSW GENERAL SECRETARY: John Dixon



NSW Teachers Federation Media Release

TURNBULL GOVERNMENT TURNS ITS BACK ON STUDENTS MOST IN NEED.

1 May 2016

There will be students in every school across Australia who miss out on the vital support that they need because of the Federal Government's schools funding policy announced today.

"It is a bitter blow to parents, teachers and principals who were hoping that the issue of schools funding could be dealt with in a bipartisan manner and be placed above petty politics in the lead up to the Federal Election," said NSW Teachers Federation President, Maurie Mulheron.

"Despite the years of research that informed the Gonski Review findings and the current evidence that the additional resourcing is working, the Federal Government today announced it will scuttle the needs-based funding model."

Mr Mulheron said today's announcement represents a \$3 billion dollar shortfall in funding. That means that thousands of schools will not be brought up to the minimum schooling resource standard by the end of the six transition years, as recommended by the Gonski Review.

Essential teaching resources and support will not be delivered and the greatest impact will be felt by those students with the greatest needs.

"In just over two years, the additional Gonski funding has improved the learning outcomes for countless children in NSW schools," Mr Mulheron said.



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“Strong accountability measures ensure the money is delivered to where it is most needed. But today’s announcement by the Federal Government will mean that those successful Gonski programs and initiatives will not be funded into the future,” Mr Mulheron said.

“School principals have been reporting on the significant gains being made in their schools as a result of the range of initiatives developed with the Gonski funding, such as smaller classes, extra numeracy and literacy programs and one-to-one support.”

“All this is at risk if Malcolm Turnbull is allowed to destroy the funding model.”

In stark contrast to the Federal Coalition, the Federal ALP has committed to fully fund the six year Gonski agreement.

“Clearly, schools funding will be an important election issue.”

“School communities now face a clear choice: additional resources or cuts to vital programs,” Mr Mulheron said.

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