



New South Wales Teachers Federation
a branch of the Australian Education Union
AEU NSW Teachers Federation Branch ABN 86 600 150 697



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NSW PRESIDENT: Maurie Mulheron • NSW GENERAL SECRETARY: John Dixon

NSW TEACHERS FEDERATION MEDIA RELEASE

2017 GONSKI FUNDING WELCOMED BY TEACHING PROFESSION

20 October 2016

Educators across NSW welcome the NSW Government's announcement of the additional resources for schools as part of the next phase of the Gonski funding agreement.

The needs-based Gonski model is designed to ensure that all schools by the end of 2019 reach the schools resource standard established by the Gonski Review.

"The NSW Government continues to honour its commitment and the signed Agreement with the Commonwealth but the additional resourcing is under threat by the Turnbull Government's refusal to commit to or fund the model past 2017. This uncertainty in schools funding caused by the Federal Government is unacceptable," said Federation President, Maurie Mulheron.

The six year funding model, which began in 2014, increases funding gradually in the first four years. This year, 2016, has seen 18 per cent of the Gonski funding allocated to schools. By the end of 2017, the Gonski allocation will increase to 36 per cent.

The Federal Government is refusing to commit to its share for the final two years when the bulk of the money is due.

"Turnbull's and Birmingham's belligerent refusal to fund Gonski will lead to increased inequality and force schools with students who need the additional support to cut successful programs. Schools throughout the public education system will not reach the minimum schools resource standard set by the Gonski Review," said Mr Mulheron.



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“Already the additional Gonski funding has led to system-wide initiatives in literacy and numeracy teaching, increased professional development for teachers, smaller class sizes, school-based student engagement programs, support for senior students preparing for the HSC, additional specialist support staff and teacher aides, one-on-one support for students with learning difficulties, greater support for students with disabilities, additional English language teaching for students from a non-English speaking background and targeted programs for Aboriginal students.”

“The NSW Teachers Federation will continue to campaign in communities across NSW for the full Gonski model.”

“All children in this nation deserve a fair go. The Turnbull Government would be foolish to underestimate the commitment of the teaching profession to continue the schools funding campaign for as long as it takes; to the COAG meeting next year, and through to the next Federal election if necessary,” said Mr Mulheron. “Any Government that will not commit to all our children and their future does not deserve to remain in office.”