MEDIA STATEMENT

Catholic Education Welcomes Funding Certainty

National Catholic Education Commission Executive Director, Ross Fox, has welcomed today’s announcement that the Abbott Government will deliver funding certainty for Catholic schools for the next four years.

“The Catholic sector commends the Prime Minister and Education Minister for providing this certainty for all schools.

“With this announcement we now have certainty over both the quantum of funding and the funding model determining the funding available for all Australian schools,” Mr Fox said.

“Funding certainty is essential so that Catholic schools and systems can plan to support the current and future needs of students and staff.

“The Catholic sector also welcomes the Government’s commitment to reduce unnecessary red tape and compliance contained in the Education Act.

“The National Catholic Education Commission has called for these commitments, and today we commend the Government for committing unequivocally to deliver certainty to schools and systems for the next four years through an agreement that includes all sectors, states and territories.

“Catholic education is committed to working closely with the government through the scheduled reviews as part of the agreed arrangements to support the needs of all students over the next four years and beyond,” Ross Fox said.

Mr Fox said Catholic education commissions will also benefit from $55 million over four years which is provided for in the Australian Education Act, and has been confirmed today, to assist Catholic education systems transition to new funding arrangements from 2014.

There are 1,704 Catholic schools that educate 1 in 5 Australian children. Catholic education includes students from all backgrounds, including from some of the most disadvantaged communities, and operates a system of needs-based funding for its schools.

ENDS
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