



Australian Education Union - Federal Office

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MEDIA RELEASE

Today's Federal Government funding announcement still promotes funding inequity for public education

The Australian Education Union today said the announcement by the Federal Government of its funding policy for the next quadrennium still failed to address the funding inequities whereby the majority of Australia's children are still being ignored by the Government's funding model.

Pat Byrne, Australian Education Union Federal President, said: "This announcement today does not attempt to address the funding inequities of the Federal Government's policy, and as a result almost 70% of Australian students who attend public schools are still being discriminated against by the Federal Government.

"For far too long the Howard Government has practised and promoted a model of elitism and inequity and today's announcement certainly does not indicate that this will change. This announcement extends the disproportionate amount of money going to private schools.

"Public education is the system of choice for the majority of Australian students, and the question must be asked as to why the Federal Government continues to fail to invest in public education. Public education must be a national priority.

"This announcement today, is not about a change in position or ideology; it simply reinforces the Howard Government's values which place private schools before public schools.

"We call on all opposition parties to support the replacement of this funding system in order to secure the future of public education," Ms. Byrne said.

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