



# Australian Government needs-based funding allocation model

## Introduction

Swan Christian Education Association (SCEA) is a not-for-profit system of schools, founded in 1981 by a group of parents seeking a quality Christian education for their children. SCEA now operate seven schools across eight campuses in Perth's eastern and northern suburbs.

Across the Association, over 500 dedicated Christian staff support the education of approximately 3,900 students, and support their needs through a diverse range of learning pathways, which includes both on-campus and distance education (online) options.

## Distribution of Australian Government Recurrent Funding

The following methodology outlines how Australian Government recurrent funding is distributed across our schools.

- Australian Government funding is received for distribution centrally in a single pool that is administered by the Chief Executive Officer as delegated by the SCEA Board.
- All Australian Government funding received by SCEA is distributed to its schools using the Commonwealth Government's base funding and loading methodologies. However, an adjustment is made with respect to the percentage applied to calculate the *Commonwealth Share of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS)*.
- SCEA applies a weighted average SRS in order to overcome the rate fluctuations experienced by individual schools within the system during the *Commonwealth Share Transitional Pathway* period.
- To cover the cost of all centralised services provided to schools by the system office including human resource management, finance services, professional development and information technology, each school contributes on a per student basis.

SCEA is of the view that the above stated needs-based funding arrangements ensures that funding flows equitably to each school in the system and meets student need in accordance with the Education Act 2013.