

OVERVIEW OF NEEDS BASED FUNDING DISTRIBUTION PRINCIPLES

NT CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Unit 1 Strath Village, 43 Berrimah Road, Berrimah NT 0828

Overview of Needs Based Funding Distribution Principles

NT Christian Schools is the approved system authority for seven NT Christian Schools located in metropolitan and regional areas across the Northern Territory. These seven schools are operated as:

1. Araluen Christian College
2. Gäwa Christian School
3. Marrara Christian College
4. NT Christian College
5. Nhulunbuy Christian College
6. Palmerston Christian College
7. Sattler Christian College

These schools come under the control of the NT Christian Schools Board and form part of the Christian Education National (CEN) Network. These schools are operated as Early Learning Centre's, Transition-12 schools of which 1 of the schools provides indigenous boarding. There are approximately 1300 students enrolled in NT Christian Schools.

Proposed Needs-Based Funding Distribution Arrangements

NT Christian Schools will apply the needs-based system funding distribution principals in accordance with section 78(5) of the Act with the following arrangements:

1. Public funding will be distributed to NT Christian Schools within the system in compliance with the Australian Education Act 2013 and Australian Education Regulations 2013
2. NT Christian Schools will recognise a needs-based funding arrangement that takes into account the specific circumstances of students in order to assist with the minimization of educational disadvantage and facilitate a high-quality education for every student in NT Christian Schools. Schools will receive per capita grants for each student that takes into account each school community's capacity to financially contribute to the school. The capacity to contribute will be based on each schools individual Socio Economic Score (SES)
3. Publicly funded loadings that are received on account of NT Christian Schools due to school and student characteristics will be distributed in full to schools based on their individual SES scores and individual transition group and transitional paths.
4. NT Christian Schools allocates Commonwealth recurrent funding directly to schools in accordance with notional Commonwealth allocations which include the various needs-based loadings. The System office levies each school on a pro rata basis, with adjustments according to particular management requirements, to arrive at a consolidated administrative cost.
5. NT Christian Schools has a mechanism to allocate any shortfalls in system administration costs through a system levy. The levy will be based on a per student basis using enrolments as per the Commonwealth August Census.

Compliance with Australian Education Act

NT Christian Schools: Needs-Based Funding Distribution Principles	Australian Education Act Section 78(5)
NT Christian Schools will receive a per capita amount for each student which provides resources to support students with minimal educational disadvantage.	(a)(i) Represents the recurrent resources required to support a student with minimal education disadvantage to achieve expected educational outcomes
The amount funded per student takes into account each school community's capacity to contribute financially to the school. The capacity to contribute has been based on the schools DMI.	
With consistent systemic governance, financial and management processes the maximum benefit from the use of funds is ensured for improving educational outcomes.	(a)(ii) takes account of efficiencies that can be realised while improving educational outcomes
Publicly funded specific loadings will be distributed to NT Christian Schools in full.	(b) In addition to amount per student mentioned in paragraph (a), provides loadings to students and schools with additional needs in order to support student achievement including: (i) students with disabilities (ii) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (iii) students with socio-educational disadvantage (iv) students with low English proficiency (v) schools based on location (vi) schools based on sized
Public funding to be distributed according to needs based funding formulas outlined in the Australian Education Act Regulations 2013. A copy of this funding arrangement is available on the NT Christian Schools website and from the Berrimah Systems Office.	(c) Is publicly available and transparent