



Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association

Media Release

Catholic Primary Principals meet with Ministers

May 24, 2018

The Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association (ACPPA) have had separate meetings this week with Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education and Training and with the Hon. Tanya Plibersek MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Education and Training.

ACPPA appreciate the opportunity to share their opinions and have discussions with both sides of the House on vital issues affecting Catholic primary education.

Areas discussed included the Gonski Report, the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data, Principal wellbeing, early years education and profile of the profession. ACPPA also sought clarity around funding for Catholic schools.

Brad Gaynor, ACPPA President, went on to say, *“Catholic Primary Principals know their schools best and want to ensure a fair model of funding. The funding issue remains unresolved and will have profound consequences for Catholic education, particularly for ACT but also for Catholic schools across the country.”*

ACPPA is committed to being part of the conversation to ensure that all students, especially those with additional needs and early learners, are funded appropriately so that our teachers can teach and support every student to be the best they can be. This has been at the core of Catholic Education for nearly 200 years.

The Minister and Shadow Minister are supportive and understanding of the issues faced by Catholic Education in Australia and asked for ACPPA's input and knowledge to be shared with them.

ACPPA looks forward to being consulted further to maximise the effectiveness of good education policy on the needs of every student learner in Australia.

ACPPA President, Brad Gaynor, concluded by saying, *“I am encouraged that these two key Education stakeholders are now more willing to engage with the Australian Catholic Primary Principals' Association, and we look forward to playing a role in the development of future education policy.”*

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Leading the Heart, Mind and Spirit of Catholic Primary Education