

Independent School Funding

Economic Significance of Independent Schools to the WA Economy

For Immediate Release
30 May, 2017

The Annual General Meeting of the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA) has endorsed the report of Economic Significance of Independent Schools to the WA Economy.

Executive Director, Ms. Valerie Gould, said “that is was timely for the public to consider the contributions made by the Independent School Sector in Western Australia.”

“The key findings show a significant contribution to the WA Gross State Product, local economies and jobs,” she said.

Ms Gould also highlighted the savings to both the Australian and Western Australian Governments. “Savings to Governments amounted to \$991.2 million in expenditure in 2014-15. This is a significant saving to taxpayers.”

In 2014-15 Independent Schools in WA represented by AISWA:

- Contributed approximately \$2.74 billion to WA Gross State Product (GSP) through direct and flow-on contributions;
- Supported jobs for more than 17,500 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees;
- Contributed approximately \$1.58 billion in employee wages and salaries; and
- Enrolled more than 71,200 school children in Independent Schools in 2015 that were entitled to, but did not take up a place in a government school. In 2014-15, WA Independent Schools saved the Australian and WA Governments approximately \$991.2 million in expenditure. This comprised \$794.8 million in recurrent education costs and \$196.4 million in infrastructure costs, representing a significant and ongoing saving to taxpayers.

About AISWA

The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA) is the peak body representing Independent Schools in Western Australia. It supports 155 member schools which enrol more than 70,000 students, accounting for over 16% of Western Australian school enrolments.

Independent Schools provide for students of all abilities and all social and ethnic backgrounds. They offer a choice of quality schooling for a wide range of communities, including some of Western Australia's most remote and disadvantaged Indigenous communities, communities in regional towns and diverse communities in Perth. More at www.ais.wa.edu.au

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