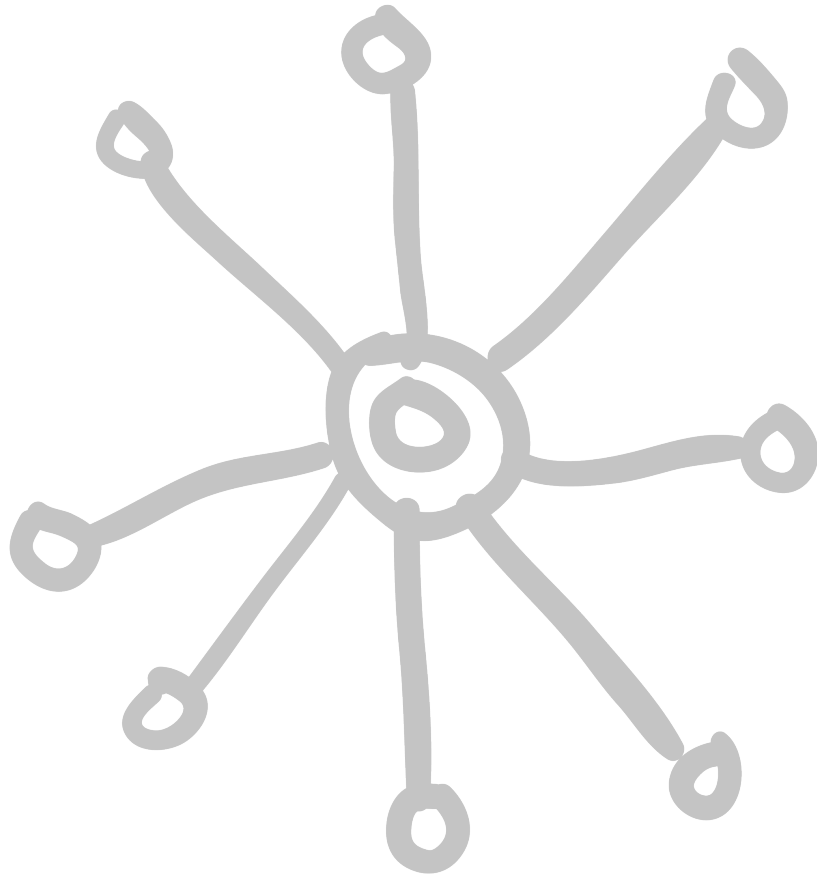


For Every Child



SSTUWA
State School Teachers' Union of WA





A decade of inequity

How Australian governments have funded private schools above public schools since 2013.

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Road trip for funding







AEU news

Stay up-to-date with the latest AEU news, media releases and more.

[Read more>>](#)

Leaving Money on the Table:

Foregone Economic Gains from Continued SRS Underfunding

New analysis from Jim Stanford, Economist and Director, Centre for Future Work at the Australia Institute, has highlighted the large economic, social, and fiscal benefits from funding public schools to 100 per cent of the Schooling Resource Standard.

[Read more here>>](#)

The facts about funding in WA

New WA funding deal still leaves public schools underfunded

Contrary to claims by the Cook and Albanese governments, the bilateral agreement signed by the state and Commonwealth governments this month will still leave public school students in Western Australia underfunded and not fully funded as claimed.

The agreement between the Cook and Albanese governments does not address the four per cent depreciation clause that allows state and territory governments to account for non-school costs, such as school transport, kindergarten expenditure, regulatory bodies and capital depreciation as part of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) share. This four per cent gap is valued at approximately \$225 million this year.

“For Western Australia, this clause will leave state schools underfunded by \$1.78 billion across the next five years and yet, there is an urgent need for this funding due to the increasing needs of the student population. There is also no guarantee this funding will make its way to school budgets where it is desperately needed. Fully funded claims made by both levels of government [in September] are in effect deceiving the public school community of Western Australia,” said SSTUWA President Matt Jarman.

“Western Australia has a high level of need, with state schools educating more than twice the number of students from low socio-educational advantage backgrounds and 2.7 times the number of First Nations students.”

AEU Federal President Correna Haythorpe said: “The four per cent clause was introduced in 2018 by the Coalition Government as part of the last round of bilateral agreements and until that time, these costs were never intended to be counted as part of the SRS, in fact, they were explicitly excluded from the SRS when it was devised.”

The use of the four per cent additional allowance removes \$225 million in funding from classrooms in 2024, an amount that will continue to rise year on year to \$238.8 million by 2028 and will account for a total of \$1.78 billion loss in funding.

At the same time, private schools in the state will continue to be overfunded by a total of \$201.7 million over the next five years.

Full funding is the only way to ensure every child gets the support they need to succeed and that teachers have the resources that they need to do their jobs well.

While the four per cent depreciation clause remains as part of the bilateral agreement, there is not a true commitment to ensuring that all schools are fully funded at 100 per cent of the SRS level.

This must be addressed by the Albanese Government as a priority matter rather than facilitating agreements that allow for the diversion of funds from public schools.

Learn more



For Every Child campaign page

Posters, signs, documents and more, plus show your support, share your story and become a volunteer.

[Visit now>>](#)

Listen to the podcasts

Catch up with our funding podcasts. Hear from SSTUWA President Matt Jarman as he discusses school funding and also listen to AEU Federal President Correna Haythorpe as she discusses the background to the For Every Child campaign.



Authorised by Sally Dennis, General Secretary, The State School Teachers' Union of W.A.
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