



**SENATOR JORDON STEELE-JOHN**  
AUSTRALIAN GREENS  
SENATOR FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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12/05/2019

Dear Principal,

I understand you may have recently received a letter from the National Catholic Education Commission making a series of inaccurate assertions about the Greens policy on education. I want to reach out to clarify our position and policy with you.

Our goal, just like yours, is to ensure that all children can have an education that sets them up for the future. For this to be possible, it's vital that every school gets the funding it needs.

The Greens are the only party with a plan to ensure all schools receive the funding they need – whether you're a Catholic school, an independent school or a government school.

Contrary to some claims, this will not leave any Catholic schools underfunded. In fact, it will ensure that any Catholic schools that are not currently receiving their Schooling Resource Standard funding requirements will get a boost in funding to meet their needs.

Regardless of the party you vote for this election, your school's recurrent funding will not change by a cent. This has been independently verified by the Parliamentary Budget Office.

In the heat of the election campaign, it can occasionally be tough to separate fact from fiction, particularly when there are so many issues at stake. That's why we're asking:

- That you not circulate the largely erroneous letter from the National Catholic Education Commission;
- Or, if you are compelled to distribute that letter, that you also include the Australian Greens Education Fact Sheet included in my correspondence with you.

The Greens are a true friend of education. That's why we are proposing our schools funding policy, have plans to restore free tertiary education, and have consistently fought for the full implementation of Gonski as it was originally intended.

If you have any further questions – please don't hesitate to reply to this email or call my office.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Steele-John', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator Jordon Steele-John  
Australian Greens Senator for Western Australia