Almost 1 in 5 Australian school students are in Catholic schools.

Support from Federal and State governments is welcomed and essential to the provision of a Catholic education for these students.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.1
Each source of funding is important and critical for the proper resourcing of schools.

Our future governments need to ensure an on-going commitment to quality education and support.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.2
Quality education for ALL children

67% of all NSW students are in Government schools

33% of all NSW students are in Non-Government schools like yours

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.3

Are school fees enough to fund the cost of your child’s education?

NO! School fees are very important but education is extremely expensive. Together, the State and Federal governments provide about 80% of the operating funds for most of the Catholic schools in NSW.

For Catholic schools, the remaining 20% is made up by fees and other charges paid by parents, support from the parish (for primary schools) and fundraising activities.

Parents also pay substantial building levies for new buildings and major upgrades of school facilities.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents

Government expenditure per school student

Student in NSW government school
= $10,162 (NSW Auditor General Report)

Student in NSW Catholic systemic school
= $7,299 (CEC audited financial statements)

Difference
= $2,863
ALL Australian students deserve an equitable share of State and Government funds to support their education.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.6
78% of the total bucket of state and government education funding goes to government schools but only 22% goes to non-government schools.

We need our politicians to ensure ongoing commitment and support.

Building the Education Revolution program has injected significant capital resources into primary level education and our communities are very appreciative. The move towards an Australian curriculum is proceeding rapidly.

The Catholic education sector, particularly parents, needs to be aware of the support and changes happening in education now.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.8
Your child’s education

How much funding does your child receive in Government grants?

Government expenditure per school student

Student in NSW government school
= $10,162 (NSW Auditor General Report)

Student in NSW Catholic systemic school
= $7,299 (CEC audited financial statements)

Difference
= $2,863

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.9
Many parents make a continuing sacrifice. Last year, parents with children in Catholic schools in NSW contributed more than $976 million in tuition fees and building fees.

Parents make continuing sacrifice to send their sons and daughters to Catholic schools.

Investing in our children’s future

Catholic education comes at a cost for parents

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.10

Our schools are heavily dependent on student grants from the Federal and State government. The school is also very dependent on fees.

Last year, parents with children at our school paid _______ in tuition fees, building levies and other charges.

Catholic education has always come at a financial cost to parents

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.11
What is the issue in education?

The issue is quality education for all students.

As a Catholic community we need to campaign for the best possible government and non-government schools that are all up-to-date and well resourced.

We need to combine our efforts to ensure the best possible opportunities are available to all.

Catholic schools are not in competition with government schools. The divisiveness that has characterised the education debate in past years needs to be set aside for all our children.
Stories in the media often lead to confusion about school funding by focusing solely on the Federal government funding. In fact all schools – State, Catholic and Independent – receive funding support from both Federal and State governments.

The difference is that Catholic schools receive the bulk of their funding from Federal government, while State schools’ main source of funding is the State government.

So, to get the full story, you need to take into account both sources of funding.

When Federal and State funding are combined, the average student in a government school receives considerably more government funding than a student in a Catholic school.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.13
In Australia, there is unwavering support from the Labour, Liberal and National political parties for the funding of non-government schools and for parental choice in education.

This support from the major political parties is greatly appreciated and recognises the rights of parents to choose how their children are educated. Parents, as taxpayers, are clearly entitled to this support.

Providing quality education is an extremely expensive exercise – but also a crucial investment in Australia’s future.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.14
Government expenditure per school student

Student in NSW government school
  = $10,162 (NSW Auditor General Report)

Student in NSW Catholic systemic school
  = $7,299 (CEC audited financial statements)

Difference
  = $2,863

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.15
Equal education for ALL children

On the basis of justice and equity, we seek an increase in recurrent funding to Catholic schools to lift Catholic Schools to the resources level of government schools.

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.16
Catholic schools are no different from government schools when it comes to accountability. They receive funding from governments and from the community so they are required to provide information on how those funds are spent and on the effectiveness of the school system.

Each year Catholic schools complete Annual Financial Questionnaires for the Commonwealth Department of Education. They are required to provide details from audited accounts of Australian and State government grants, all other sources of income and detailed statements for expenditure.

From 2010, the income for each school from all sources and its expenditure on buildings will be publicly available on the MySchool website along with the NAPLAN test results.
Catholic schools have been educating Australian children for over 180 years.

Catholic schools are committed to providing high quality educational experiences based on the Catholic ethos.

Ensure you vote for continued funding to ensure the future of Catholic education across NSW

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.18
Our Kids - Our Future

Investing in Australia’s future

“Quality education for all students”

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au  No.19
Quality Education For ALL

Government funding for ALL schools needs to be increased

What message are you hearing from the various political parties?

Council of Catholic School Parents
Advocacy and Support for all parents
www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au No.20
Thank you for your support

You may not know that we take out a loan in order to build

I take this opportunity to thank families for paying the annual building levy ($ )

We are grateful to the State government for subsidising the interest on the loan, which is currently $

We anticipate that this loan will be paid off by