

Independent Education Union Survey

School funding model funded for 2018-19 and onwards

The Greens are the only party whose support of the Gonski reforms has been unwavering. Our education spokesperson, Nick McKim, was a state Education Minister who championed the reforms throughout their negotiations.

The Greens are committed to honouring the full six years of the National Education Reform Agreement (NERA), and beyond.

Years five and six of NERA (Gonski) has been costed by the Parliamentary Budget Office at around \$3.9 billion above projected Commonwealth funding, which would result in all schools being funded at a minimum of 95 per cent of their SRS by year six. To maintain this level of funding across the forward estimates, after a six-year NERA ends after the 2019 school year, will cost a further \$1.5 billion.

This brings the total of our Education Equity policy for schools to an extra \$5.4 billion over four years.

The Greens believe that education should be sector-blind, and funded according to student need. This fundamental belief underpins our policy and costings of needs-based school funding, which also includes our Higher Funding for Higher Needs policy.

Commitment to fund and index need as identified by Students With Disabilities research project (learning adjustment definitions)

The Students with Disability (SWD) loading introduced through Gonski was an interim arrangement, until Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) on School Students with Disability could be defined and collected. The Government now has that data, but has failed to introduce it into loading calculations.

The Greens are the only political party to have a policy on disability funding for schools based on and costed against NCCD, which amounts to an extra \$4.8 billion over the forward estimates. This is therefore the only disability in schools policy costed against actual need. This policy, Higher Funding for Higher Needs, can be viewed at: <http://greens.org.au/disability-education>.

Requirement on all state governments to meet funding co-commitment levels as identified in School Review Report

The Greens fully support the Gonski reforms, which required all partner jurisdictions with the Commonwealth to contribute 35% of total SRS funding plus loadings. Without this commitment from the jurisdictions, the principles and objectives of Gonski cannot be realised.

AITSL- representation of both IEUA and AEU on AITSL board and AITSL committees

The Greens believe that for AITSL to successfully realise its objectives, it must have the confidence of the teaching profession. We believe AEU and IEUA representation on the AITSL Board is critical to achieving this confidence.

Access to high quality, affordable continuing education

On top of reversing recent cuts to Higher Education made by this and the previous Labor Government, The Greens have proposed a 10% increase in per-student base funding that would be phased in over four years at a rate of 2.5 per cent.

Right of union to apply for multi-enterprise bargaining

The Greens support reform of the Fairwork Act to allow unions to apply for multi-enterprise bargaining.

Lawful industrial action in multi-enterprise negotiations

The Greens support reform of the Fairwork Act to allow lawful industrial action in multi-enterprise negotiations.

Maintenance of current paid parental leave provisions

The Greens' Fair Work Amendment (Paid Parental Bill) 2010 would guarantee the primary carer with 26 weeks paid leave at the parents' salary to a cap of \$100,00 pa with a safety-net floor of the national minimum wage, including superannuation, which is omitted from the government's current 18 week scheme. Under The Greens' scheme, partners would also be entitled to paid parental leave at 100% of their salary to a cap of \$100,000 pa. This scheme is more generous than Labor's scheme as well as being fairer and more affordable than the Coalition's scheme.

Right to return to part time work after parental leave

The Greens have a raft of policies on flexible and family friendly working conditions and environments. Our Removing Workplace Barriers for Women policy includes: giving women more control over their time and work; better paid parental leave; a better parenting payment; equal pay and fairer superannuation; more and better childcare; and Protection against discrimination at work for domestic violence victims.

Paid domestic/family violence leave

The Greens policy is for universal access to 10 days paid domestic violence leave annually under the National Employment Standards.

Prioritise indigenous health, education and well being

The Greens have always made Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples health, education and wellbeing a policy priority. Our policy on empowering and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will restore over \$500 million of funding cut by the Coalition from Aboriginal services across Australia, including key health and education services.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities will benefit from mental health measures worth \$720m which target rural, regional and remote communities, including \$24m to regional Western Australia, and more than \$17m in additional funding for services and workforce in the Northern Territory, including remote communities.

The Greens have announced \$20m for projects to reduce the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children going into out of home care - <http://greens.org.au/stolen-generation>

Additional funding for key health priorities will also be included in forthcoming announcements.

Appropriate and adequate funding to ECEC

The Greens policy on early childhood education includes funding for increased access and improved affordability, particularly for low and middle income parents and carers, to a quality education and care system that supports workers. The full details of the policy will be released shortly in the course of the 2016 election campaign.

Asylum seeker fair go

The Greens offer a unique proactive alternative for the fair and efficient assessment and resettlement of people seeking asylum which ensures they are treated with respect and dignity and integrated into our community.

Importantly, the Greens policy will ensure that people's safety is paramount. The Greens will: increase the number of refugees we take each year to 50,000 people (including introducing a new 'skilled refugee visa' for 10,000 people per year); significantly increase the funding we provide the UNHCR and organisations in our region to speed up the processing time of people's claim and provide a 'dignity package' for refugees while they wait (including access to healthcare, education, English lessons and work rights); release all children from detention (including those held on Nauru); close off-shore camps in Manus Island and Nauru; and abolish Temporary Protection Visas and reintroduce permanent protection for all applicants.