Media Release

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Funding Review Changes Could Cost Taxpayers – Victorian Government

The Victorian Government’s submission to the Gonski Review of Funding for Schooling says that Victorians would be required to spend an additional $17.6 million each year for every one per cent of students moving from non-government schools to the government system.

The submission says ‘there is a risk’ that the outcomes of the review will cause flow-on costs for Victorian families and the Victorian Government.

It says that a reduction in funding for non-government schools may result in fee increases for parents, many of whom make significant sacrifices to send their children to non-government schools, and may result in some withdrawing their children from, or delaying their enrolment in non-government schools.

Independent Schools Victoria Chief Executive, Michelle Green, welcomed the submission, which emphasises that all students deserve public support for their schooling.

‘We agree with the government that Victorian families and students, and government and non-government schools should not be worse off under any school funding reform.’

Ms Green said that the submission:

- reinforces the importance of parental choice
- insists on transitional arrangements in any funding changes
- seeks early action on support for students with disabilities
- calls for clarity around funding and accountability arrangements.

‘These are the issues that we raised in our submission to the Funding Review. We congratulate the government on clearly spelling out the concerns of parents who have children in government, Independent or Catholic schools,’ Ms Green said.