

Parent Memorandum 2/2017

Date	9 May 2017
From	Josh Thow (Board Chair) & Erik Hofsink (Principal)
To:	All Parents, Staff and Students

Dear Emmaus Families,

Last week the Federal Government announced its intended changes to Education funding that will impact a number of ACT non-government schools.

While full details are still emerging as the Federal budget is released, Emmaus has been listed along with a number of other ACT independent schools as being “over-funded” and will receive reduced federal funding in coming years. While overall the new policy has been well received, ACT schools are most affected due to our local demographic.

We have been in contact with the Commonwealth Department of Education who confirmed that Emmaus will be affected by the planned reductions, with a funding level freeze over the next 10 years. Included in the announcement was a transition assistance fund to help affected schools adjust to the new funding model. Our school leadership along with our political representatives will continue engaging with the Department to achieve suitable transition funding for Emmaus should the new model proceed.

While we understand some adjustment will be required to manage our resources under the new model, we are also exceptionally thankful to the Lord for the resourcing given to us. Though the Governments announcement has been a surprise in the political landscape, our Board has been mindful of a likely funding change for a number of years. The board will continue to be diligent in our financial management as we partner together to ‘educate our children in wisdom and character, to the glory of God’.

We will continue to update our school community as further details arise. Erik has already had an opportunity to address the media in a positive interview with ABC TV. Please pray for our school leadership, and also our political leaders as we negotiate resourcing for our school.

Kind regards,

Josh Thow (**Board Chair**)

Erik Hofsink (**Principal**)