



**St Philip's  
Christian Education**  
FOR THE WHOLE OF LIFE

## St Philip's Christian Education Foundation

### Needs-Based Funding Arrangement

Version: 1.8

Status: Approved

Date approved: 25 May, 2023

Date of next review: 15 February, 2024



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## Introduction

St Philip's Christian Education Foundation Limited (SPCEF) is the Approved System Authority (ASA) which receives all Commonwealth Government recurrent funding in accordance with the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth) (Act) and the Australian Education Regulation 2013 (Cth) (Regulations), and all NSW Government recurrent funding in accordance with the Education Act 1990 (NSW) (NSW Act), in respect of the SPCC Registered Schools (as defined below).

In accordance with section 78(4) of the Act, SPCEF is registered as an independent Approved Authority for the purpose of distributing funding according to the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS).

Pursuant to section 78(5) of the Act, SPCEF has prepared this Needs Based Funding Arrangement (NBFA) to outline how it, as the ASA, distributes Commonwealth and State recurrent funding to SPCEF registered schools.

## Background

SPCEF is a not-for-profit Christian educational organisation operating NSW Education Standards Authority registered schools in NSW. SPCEF has a board of directors and is the sole proprietor responsible for the administration and operation of its registered schools, including:

- St Philip's Christian College Newcastle;
- St Philip's Christian College Port Stephens;
- St Philip's Christian College Cessnock;
- St Philip's Christian College Gosford;
- St Philip's Christian College Dynamic Learning; and
- St Philip's Christian College Young Parents,

(collectively, SPCC Registered Schools).

This NBFA applies to all of the SPCC Registered Schools for the purpose of providing primary and secondary education.

Our mission is to continue to provide quality education in a caring, secure and challenging learning environment based on Christian beliefs, values and practice. We partner with our students' families, our local communities and the Commonwealth and State Governments to fulfil this mission. On behalf of our parents and carers, SPCEF is



grateful to both the Commonwealth and State Governments for their financial investment in the education of our enrolled students through recurrent funding.

To ensure the SPCC Registered Schools are operated as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, SPCEF has established a Central Office to oversee the centralised delivery of certain educational and administrative activities necessary for the operation of the SPCC Registered Schools including payroll, information and communications technology, human resource management, financial services, central treasury, procurement, professional development, compliance support, marketing and other professional services. By centralising the delivery of these key services across all SPCC Registered Schools, SPCEF is able to eliminate unnecessary duplication, benefit from economies of scale and increase efficiencies, allowing the re-allocation of resources to improve educational outcomes. The Central Office is governed by a Master Service Charter which is reviewed periodically by the Board of SPCEF.

## Distribution of Australian Government Recurrent Funding

In accordance with section 78(5) of the Act, the ASA distributes funding to the Registered Schools in accordance with the following arrangement:

- Recurrent funding is distributed in compliance with the Act and the Regulations.
- When determining the relevant distribution of funding to each of the SPCC Registered Schools, the ASA considers the individual needs of students and each school in a fair and consistent manner with a view to delivering the highest possible quality of education for each student enrolled at a SPCC Registered School.
- Base Funding Distribution
  - In calculating the base funding distribution for each SPCC Registered School, the ASA adopts the Federal Government's base amount methodology, as set out in Division 2 of Part 3 of the Act, which multiplies the number of students in the relevant school with the notional student resource standard (SRS) funding amount for the relevant year. This amount is then adjusted to take account of each school's capacity to contribute (CTC) percentage, resulting in an amount per student (Amount per Student).
  - The Amount per Student is distributed to each SPCC Registered School based on the number of students less an amount which is deducted to fund the SPCEF's Central Office activities in relation to the operation of the SPCC Registered Schools (Central Office Allocation).
  - The Central Office Allocation is calculated by applying the deduction percentage to the Amount per Student. This deduction percentage is



determined annually by the SPCEF board of directors during budget setting or as required to meet the educational needs of our students according to the resourcing requirements of the SPCC Registered Schools and the Central Office with the aim of promoting efficiencies across all SPCC Registered Schools while improving educational outcomes.

- Loadings Distribution
  - The ASA passes on the Federal Government's allocated loadings directly to each Registered School in accordance with Division 2 of Part 3 of the Act. These loadings apply to:
    - Students with disability;
    - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students;
    - Students with socio-educational disadvantage;
    - Students who have low English proficiency;
    - Schools based on location; and
    - Schools based on size.
- Funding received from the State Government
  - Recurrent funding received from the State Government is received by the ASA in accordance with section 83B(6)(ii) of the NSW Act, for the benefit of the relevant SPCC Registered School.

SPCEF and its board of directors will review this NBFA annually, or as required from time to time, to ensure the highest quality of education for each student. A copy of this document can be found on the SPCEF website.

Board Ratification

Date: 25 May, 2023

Signed:



Graeme Irwin

Chief Executive Officer