

Raise the subsidy rate to private schools and  
**improve the overall performance  
of school education**



Common Cents  
Increase the Funding  
of Private Schools



Raise the subsidy rate to private schools and  
**reduce Government expenditure  
on school education**



INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS  
OF NEW ZEALAND

*Representing the nation's leading private schools*

## **The Government has an opportunity to leverage the capacity, the resources and facilities, and the educational outcomes of private schools by making them more affordable and more accessible to more families.**

---

Currently, New Zealand's Private Schools Sector:

- Provides choice in education.
- Protects parental rights to choose the education that best meets the needs of their children (as per the Declaration of Human Rights).
- Produces outstanding academic results from top performing schools.
- Boosts the nation's global rankings in educational outcomes.
- Sets national benchmarks in innovation, diversity and curriculum delivery, thus acting as a competitive stimulus for state schools.
- **Saves the Government an estimated \$200 million a year** it would otherwise have to spend to educate private school students in state schools.
- Reduces pressure on the state system, freeing up valuable funding for state school through private schools parents meeting a substantial proportion of the cost of their child's education.
- **Provides the Government with a net fiscal return.** The Government receives more back in GST paid on tuition fees than it gives out in funding.\*
- Educates children from all walks of life, cultural, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.

---

\* The GST paid on tuition fees at ISNZ Member Schools in 2011 will exceed the Government subsidy funding by over \$15 million.

## Funding private schools seems helpful, rather than harmful, to the pursuit of education equity.

(NZIER "Funding Arrangements for Independent Schools" 2010)

### Justifying the Case for Improved Public Funding for Private Schools:

- **Society is richer for having choice in schooling.** It is not unreasonable for governments to support the principle of choice through limited funding.
- The Government does not need to be the sole provider of education. **The efficiency of the sector would be enhanced if the consumers of education services were able to exercise their choice across a wider range of providers.**
- **Parents with children at private schools pay taxes.** These parents are entitled to some share of the educational tax dollar. Currently there is no tax rebate for non-participation in the state schools sector.
- Simple efficiency dictates that **more resources should be allocated to the area of greatest returns and highest performance**, in this case, private schools.
- The **Government is a net fiscal beneficiary of the presence of a private schools sector.**
- The Government could significantly **increase the present subsidy to private schools and still maintain a net fiscal return.**
- **Without equitable funding**, private schools are closing or integrating, **creating a monopolistic, state-controlled education system.** Monopolies produce mediocrity.
- **Closing or integrating private schools** by starving them of funding ultimately **puts a much greater burden on the taxpayer.**

## ISNZ Member Schools

ACG Parnell  
ACG Senior College  
ACG Strathallan  
ACG Sunderland School & College  
Carncot School for Girls  
Chilton Saint James School  
Christ's College  
Dilworth School  
Diocesan School for Girls  
Ficino School  
Hereworth School  
Huanui College  
Huntley School  
King's College  
King's School  
Kristin School  
Matahui Road School  
Medbury School  
Pinehurst  
Queen Margaret College  
Rangi Ruru Girls' School  
Rangitaiki Independent School  
Saint Kentigern College  
Saint Kentigern School  
Saint Kentigern School for Girls-Corran  
Samuel Marsden Collegiate School  
Scots College  
Selwyn House School  
Seven Oaks School  
Southwell School  
Springbank School  
St Andrew's College  
St Cuthbert's College  
St George's School  
St Margaret's College  
St Mark's Church School  
St Paul's Collegiate School  
St Peter's School, Cambridge  
The Cathedral Grammar School  
Waihi School  
Wanganui Collegiate School  
Wellesley College  
Wentworth School & College