

Catholic Education Election Scorecard

Catholic Education asked the Australian Labor Party, Liberal National Coalition, the Australian Greens and key Independent candidates to provide their response to our priorities for Catholic education. The results are below. Read their full responses via www.ncec.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Education National Priorities	Labor	LIBERAL NATIONALS	THE GREENS	Climate 200 supported Independents
Funding certainty for Catholic schools Will they guarantee no adverse changes to funding or extra costs for Catholic schools, and ensure continued funding certainty?	✓	✓	✗	?
Support for faith-based schools Do they support Catholic schools to build faith-based communities and preference the employment of staff in line with our mission and ethos?	✓	✓	✗	?
Sector-neutrality Do they support a needs-based, sector-neutral approach that ensures all Australian children have fair access to government initiatives including teaching scholarships and schools upgrade funding?	✓	✓	✗	?
Addressing disadvantage Are they committed to addressing hardship, wellbeing and disadvantage in all schools including Catholic schools where 42% of students have a lower socio-economic background?	✓	✓	✗	?
Early childhood education Will they ensure Catholic schools have fair access to early childhood education initiatives including building early learning centres on Catholic school sites?	✓	3/4	✗	?

Note: Ratings are determined by responses to policy questions and public statements.

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Authorised by J Collins, National Catholic Education Commission, Level 3, 156 Gloucester Street, Sydney.

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Why the Greens get an **X** on Catholic Education

Catholic Education asked the Australian Labor Party, Liberal National Coalition, the Australian Greens and key Independent candidates to provide their response to our priorities for Catholic education.

On every measure Greens policy leaves Catholic schools and their communities isolated and excluded.

The Greens scored badly on every measure, here's why...

Funding certainty for Catholic schools

The Greens are clear that their focus at this election is on public schools and public schools alone. While they acknowledge all schools deserve to be funded, their policies to further top-up public school funding will **adversely affect Catholic schools** in real terms.

In their public statements, the Greens have consistently indicated they want to 'take the Catholics down a notch' in discussions on school funding.

Support for faith-based schools

The Greens have consistently **advocated and voted against** Catholic schools having the ability to preference and employ staff who support the Catholic ethos. There is strong and growing public support for faith-based schools.

Sector-neutrality

The Greens **exclude** Catholic schools from all of their proposed policy initiatives except for the provision of HEPA filters and carbon monoxide monitors.

Addressing disadvantage

The Greens **failed to acknowledge Catholic school families** in their proposed measures to ease cost-of-living pressures on families. This is despite 42% of Catholic school students coming from the lowest socio-educational quartiles. In their response, the Greens assume only families with children in public schools are doing it tough; this is untrue and unfair.

Early childhood education

The Greens gave no response to our questions on support for early childhood education including building early learning centres on Catholic school sites.

Read their full response via www.ncec.catholic.edu.au

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