

16th January 2024

Attention: Karen Godfrey

Re: Future foundations for giving -Draft report

Dear Karen,

I am writing to you as a concerned parent and active member of our community. As you may be aware, the Australian Productivity Commission's draft report titled 'Future foundations for giving' has proposed changes that could significantly impact the funding model for Christian and other faith-based schools.

Our family, like many others, values the educational and moral teachings provided by Christian faith-based schools. These institutions not only offer high academic standards but also instills core values that resonate with our family's beliefs. The proposed changes in the report, particularly those affecting tax benefits for donations, could lead to a substantial increase in school fees. This prospect is particularly daunting given the current economic climate and the mounting cost-of-living pressures that our family, and many others, are facing.

The ripple effects of these proposed changes extend beyond financial concerns. There's a real risk that this shift in policy could be perceived as a lack of governmental support for faith-based education, which plays a vital role in our diverse educational landscape. Furthermore, the potential influx of students from private to public schools due to increased fees could strain already overstretched public education resources.

I urge you to consider the broader implications of the 'Future foundations for giving' draft report. Our community values the diversity and choice in education that faith-based schools provide. I respectfully request that you advocate for the dismissal of the recommendations in this report that negatively impact these institutions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am hopeful that with your support, we can ensure a diverse and accessible education system for all Australian families.

Yours sincerely,

Jerome Joyce