

Guide to writing your submission

Whether you're a teacher, a parent and/or a community member who supports a well-resourced public education system, your perspective matters.

Taking the time to put a quick submission together is a great way to support Gonski being delivered in every school in the country, for the long term.

It all comes down to this – an opportunity to say why you give a Gonski.

You can refer to the [Resources page](#) on our website for some great fact sheets on Gonski, including the report itself.

Try and include some detail in your submission about your community - what practical difference extra resources would mean for local schools in your area. That might mean some detail about the school where you teach, or your child attends. If you're not a parent or teacher, talking in general terms about the importance of adequate resources to enable every child to access a high quality education is also really useful. Look up school by school Gonski figures [here](#).

We've included the example below to help you write your own submission: it's a submission from a parent in regional Victoria.

You can also refer to the [Parliamentary website](#) directly for further information about making a submission.

Submission Example

Dear Committee,

*I passionately believe that **every child deserves the best education Australia can provide**, and would like to take this opportunity to present my case for implementing the 'Gonski' measures in full, as they were taken to the 2013 Federal election.*

Why I give a Gonski

- *Beyond funding, the Gonski reforms ask us to **raise our expectations around government education** and to put our children's learning first. Every child deserves to be proud of their school and their education, and to feel confident and well-prepared when they graduate.*
- *The reforms will provide fairer funding across the board – addressing current **funding imbalances** between independent, State and non-secular schools – while providing extra help for the students who need it most.*
- *The current system of inconsistent, unpredictable funding makes it very difficult for schools to plan, prepare and allocate their funds. It is unnecessary and unsustainable.*
- *Sadly, recent funding cuts have meant a range of quality intervention programs have been cut or significantly reduced. These cuts impacted our Reading Recovery tutors as well as funding for Quicksmart Maths and Multi-lit programs.*
- *Parents and staff have had to invest significant time and energy into fundraising in order to purchase books, equipment, learning resources and even teacher professional development.*

We know improved funding makes a difference

- *Our school benefitted from the Commonwealth's National Partnership funding. This injection of funds helped provide targeted programs and coaching that have **demonstrated real improvements** in student literacy, numeracy and wellbeing outcomes.*

Six years of Gonski funding would benefit our school, even beyond physical resources

- *There should be absolutely **no difference in our expectations** for the kind of education our children receive, regardless of the school they attend. Every child should enjoy the opportunity to meet their potential and excel in their studies. Gonski funding will allow schools to move beyond meeting basic literacy and numeracy standards toward developing creative, innovative thinkers and motivated, productive people.*
- *Children admire teachers who are clever, energetic and find exciting ways to help them explore, discover and learn. Gonski will help us **invest in our teachers** – by supporting ongoing coaching and mentoring, planning, and professional development – encouraging them to be life-long learners, and sustaining their passion to pass it on to our children.*
- *A **strong school community**, with connected, involved and empowered parents, goes a long way to generating better outcomes for kids. Children love to have their family involved at school – it makes them feel special and that their learning is valued. Gonski funding would allow schools to find more ways to engage with families – improving attendance and helping to build more resilient and effective families and communities.*
- *With many parts of the nation, including Victoria, in the slow lane of the 'two speed economy', excellence in education is essential to elevating educational, social and economic outcomes for all Australians. If we invest in our children, we invest in our future.*

So regardless of what you call it – National Education Reform Agreement, Better Schools, Gonski – it is critical that education funding become fair and balanced, for the sake of our children, their educators and the nation as a whole.