EDUCATION GAPS HURT INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are still an average of two to three years behind their non-Indigenous classmates in literacy and numeracy.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people are 24 times more likely to be in detention than non-Indigenous young people.

Only 55% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people complete Year 12.

To turn this around we need to invest resources in the schools these students attend.

HOW GONSKI CAN HELP

Gonski funding consists of additional targeted funding, called loadings, to the schools which educate kids who need it most.

There are five loadings for kids who:

- Go to a rural, remote or small school
- Have English as a second language
- Have a disability
- Come from a low socio-economic family background
- Who are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students would be eligible for more than one loading.

These loadings mean more money for school to run extra programs to meet the needs of individual kids.

WHAT’S HAPPENING NOW

Gonski funding has arrived in schools in some States and Territories and is already lifting results for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through:

- Smaller class sizes
- More specialist teachers, speech therapists, and psychologists and teacher aides
- New literacy & numeracy programs, cultural programs

But some States and Territories haven’t passed on extra funding to schools and those kids are missing out on opportunities.

THE THREAT TO GONSKI

Despite its success, there is no guarantee the full six years of Gonski funding will be delivered as planned.

The Federal Government now says it will not fund its share of the last two years of the agreements - when most of the extra funding is to be delivered.

We need the full six years of Gonski to make sure ALL schools have the resources to meet the needs of their students.

Schools need full Gonski funding to ensure all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can get the education that lets them reach their full potential.

REGISTER YOUR SUPPORT WWW.IGIVEAGONSKI.COM.AU  /igiveagonski  @igiveagonski

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