

## **Overview of Needs-Based Funding Distribution Principles Queensland Lutheran Schools System**

Lutheran Education Queensland is the approved system authority for 26 Lutheran Schools located in metropolitan and regional areas across Queensland. These schools are operated as eight primary schools, two secondary schools, fourteen P-12 schools, one P-9 school and one P-10 school. There are approximately 18,000 students enrolled in Queensland Lutheran schools.

### **Needs-Based Funding Distribution Arrangements**

Lutheran Education Queensland applies the following needs-based system funding distribution principles for Queensland Lutheran schools:

1. Public funding is distributed to Queensland Lutheran schools in compliance with the *Australian Education Act 2013* and *Australian Education Regulation 2013*.
2. Lutheran Education Queensland recognises needs-based funding arrangements that take account of the specific circumstances of students and individual schools in order to assist in the minimisation of disadvantage and to facilitate a high quality education for every student in every Lutheran school. Queensland Lutheran schools receive a per capita grant for each student, supplemented by additional funding targeted at individual student need.
3. Publicly funded loadings that are received on account of Queensland Lutheran schools due to school and student characteristics are distributed in full to schools for which they are received on behalf of.
4. The distribution arrangements for Queensland Lutheran schools may include a mechanism to allocate system administration and school support costs to individual Lutheran schools through a system levy.
5. Lutheran Education Queensland will levy for administrative expenditure incurred on behalf of schools. This expenditure will be consistent with existing practice and will reflect actual costs associated with efficiently achieving educational aims of Queensland Lutheran schools. It will continue to be attributed to schools and reported in the Financial Questionnaire / My School reporting.
6. Lutheran Education Queensland will levy for special purpose funding of schools that may arise out of specific circumstances such as a crisis or developmental need. These funds will be consistent with the Terms of Reference and will continue to be attributed to schools and reported in the Financial Questionnaire / My School reporting.
7. Lutheran Education Queensland has adopted a system weighted average SES score across all Queensland Lutheran schools in order to calculate the capacity to contribute percentage and therefore determine the funding quantum available to the approved system authority. It will be requested that Lutheran Education Queensland has the ability to review the weighted average SES Score annually and request a change. Where a system weighted average SES score is no longer beneficial for Queensland Lutheran schools, individual school SES score will be used to calculate capacity to contribute.

<b>Lutheran Education Queensland: Needs-Based Funding Distribution Principles</b>	<b>Compliance with: <i>Australian Education Regulation 2013</i> Section 61 (sub-section 1)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Queensland Lutheran schools will receive a per capita amount for each student, supplemented by additional funding targeted an individual student need.</li> </ul>	(a) An amount per student should be provided representing the recurrent resources required to support a student with minimal educational disadvantage to achieve expected educational outcomes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weighted average SES Score adopted and will be reviewed annually.</li> </ul>	(b) An amount per student for non-government schools should recognize the capacity of the school's community to contribute financially to the school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publicly funded loadings will be distributed in full to the Queensland Lutheran schools for which they have been received on behalf of due to specific school and student characteristics.</li> </ul>	(c) In addition to the amounts mentioned in paragraph (a), loadings should be provided to students and schools with additional needs in order to support student achievement, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) for students with disability; and</li> <li>(ii) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students; and</li> <li>(iii) for students with a low socioeconomic status; and</li> <li>(iv) for students who have low English proficiency; and</li> <li>(v) for schools based on location; and</li> <li>(vi) for schools based on size.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mechanism for allocating system administration and school support costs through a system levy.</li> <li>Levy for administrative expenditure incurred on behalf of schools.</li> <li>Levy for special purpose funding due to specific circumstances ie, crisis or developmental needs.</li> </ul>	(d) A funding model should take account of efficiencies that can be realized while improving educational outcomes;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public funding to be distributed according to needs-based funding principles and in compliance with Students First legislation.</li> </ul>	(e) A funding model should be publicly available and transparent.