Local Schools, Local Decisions is an education reform that puts students at the centre of all our decisions. We have developed a new resource allocation model (RAM) to allocate funding for public schools in the most equitable way.

Many students face unique and profound challenges that require personalised and customised support. Dedicated responses are required to support students in whatever settings the students are enrolled. This includes students who:

- require high or moderate level adjustment for disability
- require specific support
- are new arrivals or refugees.

**Low level adjustment for disability** – loading based on the number of students with low level disability and learning support needs.

**Aboriginal background** – loading reflects both proportion and number of Aboriginal students in the school

**English language proficiency** – loading reflects English language proficiency based on school assessment of ESL phase

**Socio-economic background** – loading is calculated using information about educational and occupational backgrounds of parents to capture concentration of disadvantage.

**Base school allocation** based on school type (primary, secondary, central, School for Specific Purposes) and includes a global allocation with funding for professional learning.

Current staffing entitlement adhering to the class size policy.

**Site loading including:**

- **School buildings and facilities** loading for the nature of the school’s gross floor area and a maintenance factor capturing building age and replacement value.
- **Climate** – loading is calculated on the climatic region of the school taking into account requirements for heating and cooling.
- **Location** – loading to reflect the additional costs associated with remoteness and isolation.