In 2009, each Australian school’s NAPLAN data was loaded onto the My School website. This year, each school’s financial data will also be placed on the site.

**How is the figure for each school calculated?**

The figures that will be on the website will represent the funding that each school receives. There is a total amount for each school as well as an amount calculated on a ‘per student’ basis. It is worked out by adding together the grants received from the Commonwealth and State Governments (and allocated to schools by the Catholic Education Office), school fees and any income to the school.

**Will funding vary from school to school?**

Yes. The funding each school receives will vary for a number of reasons. These are the main ones:

1. Because the Catholic Education Office allocates funds according to where the need is greatest, this will mean that the students who require the most help get it. The most money is given to schools that need the most support for their students. Also, some communities experience financial hardship to a greater degree than in others, and this has an impact on what can be collected through school fees.

2. The size of that school will make a difference to the ‘per student’ funding it receives. Because of their economies of scale, large, established schools are likely to have less ‘per student’ funding than small schools. New schools and ‘specialist schools’ like trade training centres will also need extra funding.

3. For a variety of reasons, some schools are able to raise a lot more money in their local communities than other schools.

**What is most important of all...**

The focus for any system of Catholic schools when allocating funding is ensuring that every student, regardless of what school he or she attends, or where the school is located, or what his or her needs are, is provided with best education possible.

That is what Catholic systemic schools are all about.