

# INDEPENDENT BOARDING SCHOOLS

2022 EDITION

LATEST AVAILABLE  
FACTS AND FIGURES

THIS DOCUMENT IS INFORMED BY  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA  
RESEARCH. THE FULL REPORTS ARE  
AVAILABLE AT [WWW.ISA.EDU.AU](http://WWW.ISA.EDU.AU)

Independent boarding schools serve families from diverse backgrounds and locations – especially those families who do not otherwise have easy access to education.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF CHOICE

Many families benefit from the choice and opportunities provided by Independent boarding schools.

Surveys of parents, carers, heads of boarding and boarding staff reveal the motives.

## WHY FAMILIES CHOOSE INDEPENDENT BOARDING SCHOOLS

### TOP REASONS

HIGHER-QUALITY EDUCATION	1
ACCESS TO EDUCATION	2
GEOGRAPHICAL ISOLATION	3

### GREATEST BENEFITS

GREATER INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE	1
BOARDING IS A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE FOR BOARDERS	2
INCREASED OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION	3
HIGHER ACADEMIC OUTCOMES	4

## DIVERSE FEES FOR DIVERSE NEEDS

The average fee for a student at an Independent boarding school in Australia is between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

### RANGE OF FEES (PER ANNUM)

\$2,200  \$40,000

## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

In times of significant change, and challenges, Independent boarding schools have been responsive to diverse student needs and welfare – and demonstrated resilience.

For Independent boarding schools to continue providing quality care and education, they need to overcome financial and workforce challenges.

### KEY CHALLENGES

AVAILABILITY OF A QUALIFIED WORKFORCE
STAFF REMUNERATION & WORKLOAD
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH
MAINTAINING AND UPGRADING INFRASTRUCTURE
COST OF REGIONAL BOARDING
DECREASE IN OVERSEAS STUDENTS

### KEY OPPORTUNITIES

GREATER RESOURCING FOR DISADVANTAGED BOARDERS
UPGRADING INFRASTRUCTURE
IMPROVING STAFF CONDITIONS
REINTRODUCING FRINGE BENEFITS TAX BENEFITS
INCENTIVISING QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
INCREASING AVAILABILITY OF SCHOLARSHIPS
UPDATING NATIONAL BOARDING STANDARD



14,147

NUMBER OF BOARDERS  
IN INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS (70% OF  
ALL BOARDERS)



140

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS WITH  
BOARDING FACILITIES (75% OF ALL  
BOARDING SCHOOLS ARE  
INDEPENDENT)



16%

PERCENTAGE OF INDEPENDENT  
BOARDING STUDENTS WHO ARE  
ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT  
ISLANDER



71%

PERCENTAGE OF INDEPENDENT  
BOARDING STUDENTS FROM  
REGIONAL AND REMOTE AREAS



INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOLS  
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