National Poll on Attitudes to Christian Schools

Executive Summary

Colour Key: No | Unsure | Yes

More than 3/4 of Australians support the right of a religious school to **employ teachers and other staff who support the clearly stated values and beliefs of the school**

22.2%
77.8%

Nearly 90% **of parents with children in a faith-based school** support this right

More than 60% **of Christian school parents** support terminating the employment of staff **if they no longer share these beliefs**

Since 2019, over 2/3 of Australians consistently believe that Australian laws should **protect the right to hold and practice religious beliefs.**

11.4%
20.1%
68.5%

The support from those actively practicing a faith has grown since 2019 to now stand at **more than 91%**

70% **Support for these laws, amongst younger voters** (18-24), has increased to 70%, with the support highest amongst those with university qualifications

91% Not only do over 91% of those actively practicing a religious faith supported these protections, but they were also **supported by a majority of voters without any religious faith**

86% **of all voters** support the right of parents to **choose a school that reflects their strongly held values and beliefs.**

8.5%
5.1%
86.4%

82% **of all voters** support the right of all students to receive some level of **taxpayer funding,** which is consistent with previous results.

18%
82%

ACS Associated Christian Schools
Christian education for the common good

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS Australia®

National Poll on Attitudes to Christian Schools

Do you support the right of a religious school to employ teachers and other staff who support the values and beliefs of the school, if those values and beliefs are clearly stated?

Political Affiliation	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	Greens	Independent	One Nation	Other	**Totals**
Yes	79.4	84.0	93.0	62.6	57.3	89.6	70.8	**77.8**
No	20.6	16.0	7.0	37.4	42.7	10.4	29.2	**22.2**
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	**100%**

Do you believe that Australian laws should uphold and protect the universal human right to hold and practice religious beliefs?

Political Affiliation	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	Greens	Independent	One Nation	Other	**Totals**
Yes	69.0	70.5	79.4	62.3	55.5	78.0	69.2	**68.5**
Unsure	21.6	19.1	14.6	18.3	27.5	16.1	14.3	**20.1**
No	9.4	10.3	6.1	19.4	17.0	5.9	16.5	**11.4**
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	**100%**

Do you support the right of parents to choose a school that reflects their strongly held values and beliefs?

Political Affiliation	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	Greens	Independent	One Nation	Other	**Totals**
Yes	87.9	86.9	96.2	76.6	52.3	88.4	97.9	**86.4**
Unsure	5.1	4.8	0.0	5.1	30.4	2.8	0.0	**5.1**
No	7.0	8.3	3.8	18.4	17.3	8.8	2.1	**8.5**
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	**100%**

Do you support the right of all students to receive some level of taxpayer funding to support their education?

Political Affiliation	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	Greens	Independent	One Nation	Other	**Totals**
Yes	84.6	85.2	78.4	77.0	74.4	77.9	69.9	**82.0**
No	15.4	14.8	21.6	23.0	25.6	22.1	30.1	**18.0**
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	**100%**

This independent national research was completed by Compass Polling on behalf of the Australian Christian Schools Alliance using a national weighted sample of 1,701 via online panels. The sample are representative of the Australian population on key demographics reflected in the 2021 Census. The polling was conducted from 24 – 26 October 2022.