

National Poll on Attitudes to Christian Schools

Executive Summary

Colour Key No Unsure Yes



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**



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



Over **2/3**

of Australians believe that Australian laws should **protect the right to hold and practice religious beliefs.** This percentage has remained consistent **since 2019**



62% of younger voters (18-24) support this right, with the **highest support (77%)** in that age bracket from those with **postgraduate university qualifications**



88% Unsurprisingly, over 88% of those actively practicing a religious faith supported these protections, but they were still **supported by a majority of voters without any religious faith**



81%
of all voters

support the right of parents to **choose a school that reflects their strongly held values and beliefs.** This figure only dropped to 74% amongst those without any religious faith



82%
of all voters

support the right of all students to receive some level of **taxpayer funding, and this right was supported by 92% of all voters with children.**



When asked about whether faith-based schools should have the **right to teach the Australian Curriculum according to their values and beliefs more than 61% of voters with children agreed, rising to 89% of those also actively practicing a faith**

87% This same group were also **highly motivated** to sign a petition or take other action to **protect religious rights** in faith-based schools – nearly 87% indicating that they would do so if asked.



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	Greens	Independent	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	One Nation	Other	Palmer's United	Totals
No	40.9	36.8	26.2	17.9	6.3	16.1	29.2	14.8	25.6
Yes	59.1	63.2	73.8	82.1	93.8	83.9	70.8	85.2	74.4
Totals	100%	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	Greens	Independent	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	One Nation	Other	Palmer's United	Totals
No	19.2	14.7	11.0	10.1	15.6	16.1	8.3	22.2	12.5
Unsure	24.1	32.6	21.9	17.0	12.5	14.5	16.7	11.1	20.6
Yes	56.7	52.6	67.1	72.9	71.9	69.4	75.0	66.7	66.8
Totals	100%	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	Greens	Independent	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	One Nation	Other	Palmer's United	Totals
No	10.3	10.5	7.7	7.3	9.4	6.5	2.1	11.1	8.0
Unsure	20.7	14.7	11.0	7.1	9.4	6.5	14.6	3.7	11.2
Yes	69.0	74.7	81.3	85.6	81.3	87.1	83.3	85.2	80.8
Totals	100%	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	Greens	Independent	Labor Party	Liberal Party	Nationals	One Nation	Other	Palmer's United	Totals
No	21.2	30.5	17.3	14.9	15.6	19.4	25.0	14.8	18.2
Yes	78.8	69.5	82.7	85.1	84.4	80.6	75.0	85.2	81.8
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



This independent national research was completed by Compass Polling on behalf of the Christian Schools Alliance using a national weighted sample of 1,502 via online panels. The sample are representative of the Australian population on key demographics reflected in the 2016 Census. The polling was conducted from 25 – 26 May 2022.