

Selective entry schools benefit no one but cost everyone

New research reveals selective entry schools offer virtually no benefit the students who attend them, underscoring deep concern in education circles about these schools.

‘New research from [Victoria University](#) shows that selective entry schools have been over-sold,’ said Victorian Catholic Education Authority Chief Executive Officer Professor Elizabeth Labone.

‘Students who attend such schools do not achieve better outcomes than they otherwise would.

‘Instead, their attendance at these elite institutions deprives the schools they would otherwise attend of positive influencers and lowers levels of academic achievement.

‘Selective schools receive almost as much funding as other government schools, although almost all their students come from highly advantaged backgrounds.

‘These fortunate students receive an exclusive education entirely at taxpayers’ expense.

‘Similar students who attend non-government schools receive less than half the amount of public funding.

‘Students in other government schools also suffer because the full public funding going to selective entry schools means there is less funding available for the government schools that really need it.

‘It is not good public policy to implement segregation based on aptitude and then require all taxpayers to foot the bill,’ said Professor Labone.

The Victorian Catholic Education Authority is the peak body for Catholic school education in Victoria.

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