

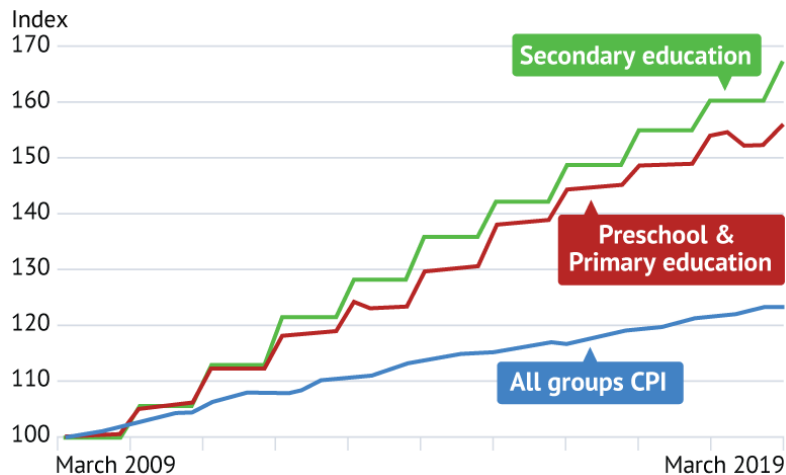
**AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR THE DEFENCE OF GOVERNMENT
SCHOOLS
PRESS RELEASE 844**

**PRIVATE SCHOOL BUSINESS PLANS
IN TIME OF PLAGUE**

[Australia is officially in a recession according to Federal Treasurer Frydenberg.](#)

The business plan of some private schools and their aspirational patrons is in freefall. Their fees have been rising, and rising, even though taxpayer funding has been rising – and rising – as well.

Thirty-six per cent of Victorian students attend a non-government school, the second-highest rate, next to the ACT, in the country. This leaves Victorians sensitive to price rises that have exceeded inflation for more than a decade. Last calendar year along, education costs grew by 2.9 per cent last calendar year, compared to a 1.8 per cent rise in inflation.



Source: ABS

In dollar terms, schools like Scotch College and Geelong Grammar, now charge fees of more than \$40,000 a year. Scotch Boarding fees alone total \$64,000 while those for Geelong are \$72,000.

Others are :	The Geelong College:	\$30,384 (Boarding: \$54,888)
	Melbourne Girls Grammar:	\$36,784 (Boarding : \$65,468)
	Methodist Ladies College	\$33,640 (Boarding: \$63,321)
	St Catherines Toorak	\$36,040 (Boarding: \$66,520 +enter fee)
	Xavier College	\$30,740 (Boarding : \$56,340)

But fees will now be frozen and jobs cut . Many school budgets have already come under pressure [as parents seek fee discounts and deferrals.](#)

There is a silver lining. Australia does not yet wholly depend upon a private, sectarian system for the education of all our children. There is still a public system, free, secular and universal that is available to all those insecure, now jobless parents who believed that they could buy privileges - and the pathway to heaven and the good job for their children. And this public system does not depend upon the vagaries of the ‘Market’ for its survival.

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