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INDEPENDENT SCHOOL STUDENTS PREPARE FOR A BIG 2012

Independent schools across the state are expecting a record number of enrolments with an influx of extra young faces when they re-open their doors to more than 112,000 students next Monday.

Independent Schools Queensland Executive Director David Robertson said 2012 would see more than 7,000 Prep students attending independent schools.

“There is a significant increase in the number of 4 year olds across the state in 2012, with a projected 4,000 increase in children who will be attending school for the first time,” Mr Robertson said.

Mr Robertson said in addition to the new Prep students, enrolments at independent schools continued to rise.

“Parents’ continued confidence in the independent sector is also reflected in the number of new independent schools that will open or expand this year,” he said.

“Endeavour Christian College in Cooktown, Lutheran Ormeau Rivers District School at Pimpama on the Gold Coast and Resha College in Algester in Brisbane will all be welcoming students into their classrooms for the first time.”

“This will bring the total number of independent schools across the state to 184.”

“Meanwhile, Shalom Christian College will open two new campuses in north Queensland. One at Clare south west of Ayr for Year 10 to Year 12 students and another at Herberton on the Atherton Tablelands.”

“In addition, Emerald Christian College will expand to include students from Years 11 and 12 and Saint Philomena School at Park Ridge south of Brisbane will grow to cater for students from Year 8 to Year 12.”

Mr Robertson said the start of every new school year was full of anticipation for the opportunities the next 12 months would bring.

“2012 represents a period of significant change in Queensland education as schools implement the new Australian Curriculum for English, Maths and Science,” he said.

“There’s also much work to be done in preparation for the transfer of Year 7 into Secondary School in 2015.”

“I wish all schools and their staff and students the very best for a successful 2012.”

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