

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Education

Minister for Mental Health



Monday, 31 January 2022

BUILDING BOOST FOR CATHOLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

The Andrews Labor Government is making sure every Victorian student has the infrastructure they need at school, with a huge boost to low fee non-government schools' infrastructure across the state.

Minister for Education James Merlino today opened applications for Round 4 of the Non-Government Schools Capital Fund, which supports the non-government sector to build new schools and upgrade existing low fee non-government schools to modernise facilities and increase enrolment capacity.

The fund also supports the removal of asbestos and cladding at non-government schools.

Projects that received funding under Round 3 of the Fund include a \$3.5 million towards a new Prep to Year 4 building for Darul Ulum College of Victoria in Mickleham, \$3 million for a student learning centre at Wyndham Vale's Heatherton Christian College and \$3 million to expand and upgrade learning spaces at Sunshine's Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Primary School.

More than one-third of Victorian students attend Catholic or independent schools, and the Labor Government is making sure all students across the state are benefitting from better school infrastructure.

In the past seven years, the Labor Government has invested more than \$10.9 billion in building new schools and more than 1,700 school upgrades, creating around 13,500 jobs in construction and associated industries.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

"Every Victorian student, regardless of what school they attend, deserves the best opportunity to thrive when it comes to their education – that's why we're contributing to building and upgrading non-government schools."

"We want our kids to have access to the modern facilities and classrooms that will lead them to bright futures – and we're proud to be partnering with the non-government sector to deliver just that."