

The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier Minister for Education Minister for Mental Health



Tuesday, 5 April 2022

IMPROVING SCHOOL CLASSROOMS AND GROUNDS IN VICTORIA

Students at more than 50 schools across Victoria will benefit from an essential maintenance boost, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Education James Merlino today announced 57 schools will share in \$5.84 million for vital improvements to grounds and classrooms, to fix high-priority issues like roofs, windows, walls, floors, pathways and stairs.

The funding is being delivered as part of the Planned Maintenance Program (PMP), which ensures existing infrastructure at 1,500 schools in Victoria are safe, modern and maintained.

The PMP identifies maintenance works based on need through an evaluation system designed to provide up-todate information on the condition of school infrastructure and create a more timely and targeted allocation of funding.

Since 2014, the Government has invested more than \$10.9 billion to build new schools and more than 1,700 school upgrades, creating around 13,500 jobs in construction and associated industries. It is ahead of schedule in its commitment to open 100 new schools by 2026, with 62 new schools opening between 2019 and 2024.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

"Every Victorian student deserves to have access to the best learning environment, no matter where they live, which is why we're undertaking this significant \$5.84 million maintenance boost at schools across the state."

"This investment builds on our reputation as the Education State— and ensures existing infrastructure is safe, modern and maintained."