

# Media Release

**The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP**

Minister for Education

Minister for Women



Thursday, 6 October 2022

## EDUCATION PLAN FOR MERRI-BEK NORTH

The Andrews Labor Government is developing an education plan for Merri-Bek North to deliver education excellence and meet the future needs of students and the community.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins today announced the Merri-Bek North Education Plan is underway to support John Fawkner Secondary College, Coburg High School, Glenroy College and Pascoe Vale Girls Secondary College.

Under the plan, the four school communities will be more connected to share their expertise and resources while supporting all students to succeed and achieve their goals.

The plan will identify and respond to community needs, as well as address the unique challenges impacting wellbeing of students in the area. It will also promote a safe and supportive environment for students, emphasising excellent teaching, quality facilities and student-focused learning.

The plan will ensure the views of staff, students and the wider school communities are front of mind in determining the best reforms to get the best outcomes for students.

There are currently eight Education Plans underway across the state, including Bayswater, Bendigo, Flemington, Footscray, Lilydale, Oakleigh, Frankston North and Shepparton.

In the past eight years, the Labor Government has invested \$12.8 billion in building new schools and more than 1,850 school upgrades, creating around 17,400 jobs in construction and associated industries.

The Government is now ahead of schedule in opening 100 new schools by 2026, with 75 new schools opening between 2019 and 2024 – ensuring every student can access a great local school and a quality education no matter where they live.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins

*“We’re developing this education plan to ensure local students have more support to achieve their goals and provide them with the best start for their future careers.”*

*“Every student deserves the chance to prosper at school, work and life – no matter their background, postcode or circumstance.”*

*“We’re looking forward to hearing from those who know their schools best – the students, teachers and communities – to help deliver great education outcomes in Melbourne’s north.”*