

# Media Release

**The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP**  
Minister for Education  
Minister for Women



Wednesday, 25 January 2023

## FREE BUS TRAVEL CONTINUES FOR SHEPPARTON STUDENTS

The Andrews Labor Government will continue to provide free bus travel for students at Greater Shepparton Secondary College to make it easier to get to and from school.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins today announced students will have their ticket costs fully reimbursed for another year, as part of the Conveyance Allowance Program.

The program supports eligible families across regional and rural Victoria with the cost of getting children to and from school.

More than 1,350 students benefited from the program last year, with the free travel helping them to transition to the school's new campus.

Free travel is also available this year to eligible rural-based students who currently use the School Bus Program and those new to the program.

The Labor Government is making sure local students get the best education, with the Shepparton Education Plan underway. The plan will deliver education excellence and meet the future needs of students and the community.

Since 2014, 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 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.

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins**

*“We know how important it is for students in Shepparton to have the best education – that’s why we’re continuing to invest in the area and providing students with free bus travel for another year to make their transition to the new school campus easier.”*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll**

*“Free bus travel for students at Greater Shepparton Secondary College will provide a huge benefit – helping make it easier to get to and from school.”*