Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll мр Deputy Premier Minister for Education Minister for Medical Research



Friday, 26 April 2024

VICTORIAN SCHOOLS WIN IN MAINTENANCE FUNDING

Schools across Victoria will undergo a maintenance blitz on essential works and repairs, to ensure students have safe and modern learning spaces, thanks to the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Education Ben Carroll today announced the next round of Planned Maintenance Program funding will be delivered to 40 schools to carry out works like fixing roofs and windows, replacing old fixtures, resurfacing floors and painting.

The \$11.2 million investment is spread across primary, secondary and specialist schools in Melbourne and across regional Victoria – with a total of \$103.5 million allocated to the Planned Maintenance Program as part of the *Victorian Budget 2023/24*, to ensure all Victorian schools are well maintained.

Works are determined by a rolling evaluation process, that constantly examines the facilities at schools across the state, providing up-to-date information on the condition of every school so maintenance funding is directed where it's needed most.

Another \$146,000 has been allocated to the Bushfire Preparedness (Vegetation) Program to assist six additional schools for vegetation clearance and related activities to reduce the risk of harm from a bushfire.

Over the past nine years, the Labor Government has invested more than \$14.9 billion in Victoria's education infrastructure, with the school building boom creating more than 21,200 jobs in construction and other industries.

Labor is also getting on with the job of building new schools in communities that need them most, with 75 new schools opened between 2019 and 2024, and another 14 in planning or construction.

For more information on the grants and a list of schools included, visit <u>schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/planned-mainte-nance-program</u>

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education Ben Carroll

"Every Victorian student deserves a school that is well maintained and safe so they have the best possible opportunity to maximise their ability."

"Our record investment in school infrastructure is delivering high quality classrooms for our hard-working principals, teachers and staff, as well as students and families."