

Media Release

Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Premier



Monday, 23 March 2026

FREE DENTAL CARE FOR KIDS TO SAVE FAMILIES TIME AND MONEY

The Allan Labor Government is saving families time and money with free dental care for kids.

The Premier announced today that Victoria's *Smile Squad* free dental program is expanding.

Students at low-fee non-government schools will soon get access to the service.

Smile Squad will initially be available to 54 schools across the state who have been invited to participate.

A phased roll out to all low-fee non-government schools will follow.

With Smile Squad, Labor is putting money straight back into household budgets to ease cost of living pressures.

Regular dental checkups can cost up to \$400 a year per child.

With Smile Squad, it's free.

Smile Squad provides checkups, treatment and follow up care by mobile teams of dedicated oral health clinicians.

Since 2019, Smile Squad has visited more than 1,000 public schools, seen more than 160,000 students and delivered more than one million oral health packs.

Labor is continuing to grow Smile Squad so no Victorian child or family misses out.

Jess Wilson's Liberals have an \$11.1 billion budget black hole which means one thing: cuts to schools and health.

Only a Labor Government will deliver free dental for our kids.

For more information about Smile Squad, visit health.vic.gov.au/smile-squad.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jacinta Allan

"No child or family should be left behind because dental care is too expensive."

"We're providing free dental care for children because only a Labor Government invests in health and children."

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas

"This means even more kids can access early intervention and ongoing dental care at school."

Quote attributable to Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll

"This expansion ensures all students have equal access to dental care, regardless of the school they attend."

Quote attributable to Member for Laverton Sarah Connolly

"We're making sure dental care is easy, safe and affordable in our community – saving time and money."

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Schools invited to participate**Suburb**

River Nile School	NORTH MELBOURNE
Worawa Aboriginal College	HEALESVILLE
Werribee Community College	WERRIBEE
Sunshine Christian School	SUNSHINE NORTH
OakTree College Incorporated	WEST FOOTSCRAY
Shepparton ACE College	SHEPPARTON
Adass Israel School	ELSTERNWICK
Berry Street Victoria Inc	NARRE WARREN
Beis Effraim College Ltd trading as Divrie Emineh	ORMOND
Advance College of Education	ROSEBUD
Y Community School	EPPING
Djerriwarrh Community College	MELTON
Corner Inlet College Ltd	FOSTER
Community College Gippsland Ltd	WARRAGUL
East Preston Islamic College	EAST PRESTON
The Avenue School Ltd	FERNTREE GULLY
Indie School Wodonga	WODONGA
Foundation Learning Centre	NARRE WARREN
Mountain District Community College	BORONIA
Mt Hira College	KEYSBOROUGH
Preston Reservoir Adult Community Education	RESERVOIR
Sacred Heart School	FITZROY
Holy Child School	DALLAS
Good Samaritan Catholic Primary School	ROXBURGH PARK
St Thomas Aquinas School	NORLANE
St Francis Xavier School	CORIO
Sacred Heart Primary School	ST ALBANS
Catholic Regional College	ST ALBANS
St Joseph's School	COLLINGWOOD
St Peter Apostle School	HOPPERS CROSSING
Doxa School Bendigo	BENDIGO
Borinya (Wangaratta Partnership)	WANGARATTA
St Dominic's Primary School	BROADMEADOWS
Sacred Heart School	MORWELL
Holy Eucharist School	ST ALBANS
St Joseph's Primary School	CHILTERN
St Joseph's School	ORBOST
Resurrection School	KINGS PARK
St Dominic's Primary School	MELTON
Saints College	NORTH MELBOURNE
St Brendan's School	FLEMINGTON
Antonine Sisters Trinity Catholic College	PASCOE VALE SOUTH
Mother of God School	ARDEER
St Mary's School	INGLEWOOD
St Mary's School	RUSHWORTH

Our Lady's Primary School
St Mary's School
St Peter's School
Our Lady's Catholic Primary School
MacKillop Specialist School
St Brendan's School
St Peter's School
St Patrick's School
St Joseph's School

CRAIGIEBURN
DANDENONG
BENDIGO NORTH
WANGARATTA
WHITTINGTON
CORAGULAC
SUNSHINE WEST
PAKENHAM
PENSHURST