

Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Education

Minister for WorkSafe and the TAC

Minister for Medical Research



Thursday, 21 May 2026

SURFSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL SET FOR NEW GYM BY 2029

Every child deserves access to a great local school with world-class facilities.

That's why the Allan Labor Government is investing \$11.65 million to upgrade Surfside Primary School in Ocean Grove — bringing them a new competition-grade gymnasium.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll visited the school today with Member for Bellarine Alison Marchant.

Planning is already underway. An architect will be appointed by September 2026, with construction to start in mid-2027 and the new gymnasium set to open by September 2029.

The gym will be built to competition standards developed in consultation with Netball Victoria and Basketball Victoria — and will be open for the whole community to use.

This new gym is part of the Labor Government's \$294.8 million investment in the *Victorian Budget 2026/27* to upgrade 31 government schools across Victoria.

When they were last in government, the Liberals and Nationals slashed \$1 billion education — devastating Victorian families and letting public schools crumble.

Do the Liberals and Nationals support upgrades for our public schools — or will they cut them?

Quotes attributable to Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll

"Nothing is more important than our children's future."

"Victorian students deserve world-class facilities — and that's exactly what we're delivering at Surfside."

"Labor is investing in great local public schools — do the Liberals support it, or will they cut it?"

Quotes attributable to Member for Bellarine Alison Marchant

"Securing funding to upgrade Surfside Primary School and deliver a brand-new indoor gymnasium is fantastic news for this incredible school community. Thank you to principal Peter Walsh, the school council presidents and the Ocean Grove community for their passionate advocacy in support of this project."