

# Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll MP  
Premier



Wednesday, 5 August 2026

## VICTORIA TOPS THE CLASS AGAIN

**Victoria shows it is the Education State with Victorian students again topping the nation in NAPLAN results.**

In 2026, a record number of students achieved their highest proficiency level.

Victorian students ranked first or second in 16 of 20 NAPLAN measures.

Victoria also has the lowest rate in the nation of students needing additional support.

There were steady improvements on previous years, across all year levels with Years 5, 7 and 9 Numeracy result significantly higher.

- In Year 9 Numeracy, 15.2 per cent of students are now 'exceeding' – more than in 2025.
- In Year 9 Writing, more than a quarter reached the highest level – that's more than in 2025.

**The results prove Labor's education reforms are working.**

The Victorian Reading Position is driving success, with all public primary schools now delivering 25 minutes of daily explicit systematic synthetic phonics in Prep to Year 2.

This literacy approach is transforming early reading outcomes for Victorian students.

**Labor has always invested in giving Victorian students the best possible education.**

And now the Labor Government is backing these results with \$44 billion to support learning, wellbeing, workforce, and school upgrades and new buildings.

This includes \$26.4 million to support excellence in literacy through a new phonics check, and \$10.4 million for a numeracy check, allowing teachers to identify Year 1 students who need early support in both mathematics and reading.

When the Liberals were last in Government, they cut more than \$1 billion from education and Victoria went backwards in NAPLAN results.

Jess Wilson's Liberal-One Nation Coalition have already committed to \$40 billion of cuts that would see schools funding slashed - and Victorian students would pay the price.

**Quote attributable to Premier Ben Carroll**

*"These results are outstanding – and they're proof Victoria is the Education State leading the nation. Congratulations to our students, teachers and families."*

**Quote attributable to Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Gabrielle Williams**

*"This is what happens when you invest in education. Great teachers, modern classrooms and real support for every student – and every Victorian child can succeed."*

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