

Getting on with the job

Victorian Budget 17/18



The Hon James Merlino MP
Minister for Education

Tuesday, 2 May 2017

Investing In Geelong Schools And Geelong Kids

23,000 students in Geelong will get the best start in life, with a huge funding injection in local school infrastructure.

The *Victorian Budget 2017/18* will invest \$19.28 million to upgrade 11 schools across Geelong. The funding will include \$2.84 million for Ashby Primary School in Geelong West, \$2.41 million for Chilwell Primary School in Newtown, \$3.22 million for Leopold Primary School and \$211,000 for Queenscliff Primary School.

It means there are now 27 school projects under way across Geelong, thanks to an \$88 million investment over the past three budgets to build and upgrade schools.

This year's Budget will also deliver new technology for students at regionally based schools in the Surf Coast and Geelong area, as part of a \$16.4 million state-wide investment to improve regional connectivity. The investment will boost the internet bandwidth of regional schools to the same standard as their metropolitan counterparts, so that every school in Victoria can offer a great digital education.

Geelong students and their families will also benefit as the Tech Schools and Doctors in Secondary School programs are rolled out to schools in the area, as well as from further funding to the state-wide asbestos and relocatables programs.

The Andrews Labor Government's huge investment in Victoria's schools means more than \$2.5 billion has now been invested in school infrastructure over the past three years, with 56 new schools being built across the state.

Quotes attributable to the Minister for Education, James Merlino

"We're making Victorian the Education State and that means making sure Geelong students have first-rate classrooms."

"We want to make sure that our schools have the best facilities, our classrooms have the best teachers and that every child is given every chance to succeed."

Quotes attributable to Member for Bellarine Lisa Neville

"This budget reflects our commitment to education, providing significant funding for local school upgrades and vital programs."

"Leopold and Queenscliff Primary school communities will benefit from upgrades to their facilities giving children state of the art learning environments."

Quotes attributable to Member for Lara John Eren

"As a father of five, I know that our kids can't get a first-rate education in a second-rate classroom. So these upgrades will really make a difference."

Quotes attributable to Member for Geelong Christine Couzens

"I'm passionate about every child receiving a first rate education. We are building the first rate classrooms in which they can learn. This is what Labor Governments do."

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