

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Emergency Services



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Wednesday, 1 August 2018

FIRST AUSTRALIAN MEETING FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION LEADERS

Education experts from around the world will gather in Melbourne next year for a summit which recognises Victoria's world-leading approach to education.

Minister for Education James Merlino today announced the Asia Society Global Cities Education Network symposium will be coming to Victoria in 2019.

The event, which provides a forum for educational leaders to share ideas on how to build a world-class education system, will bring together education experts from 11 cities around the world, including Shanghai, Singapore, Hong Kong and Toronto.

Participants will explore themes key to the success of any education system, including equity, innovating to spread best practice and providing effective career and technical education.

The Andrews Labor Government has made significant steps towards these aims including providing \$566 million in equity funding, building 10 Tech Schools and reforming the training system and careers education.

On a visit to Hong Kong in May, Premier Daniel Andrews announced that the Asia Society will open the new Asia Society Australia Centre in Melbourne, reflecting Victoria's strong ties with Asia.

Victoria is leading the nation when we compare our results internationally. Our mean reading score in the 2016 Program of International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is significantly higher than the Australian average and only seven out of 61 countries are outperforming Victoria.

The Government is building the Education State so that every Victorian student gets the opportunity for a great education and every community has access to a great school.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

"We've been hard at work transforming Victoria into the Education State and this will be a fantastic opportunity for us to see what others are doing and to keep on improving."

"Our hard work in making Victoria the Education State is now being recognised and next year education leaders from around the world will gather in Melbourne to continue learning and improving."

Quote attributable to Director of the Center for Global Education at Asia Society Anthony Jackson

"Asia Society recognizes Victoria's leadership in global education and the network looks forward to learning from the state's great work."

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