

VICTORIAN BUDGET 18/19

THE
EDUCATION
STATE



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



Education
and Training



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Building the Education State begins with the early years, which is why it's so important that we continue to invest in our youngest Victorians. The Victorian Government knows that better quality early childhood services mean a better start in life for our kids and that's why the Victorian Budget 2018/19 makes major investments to build and upgrade early years facilities and increase support for families and young children.

Victorian kids and families will be better supported with new investments in kinders and additional support for our state's most vulnerable children.

The Victorian Budget 2018/19 includes a **\$135.9 million** boost to early childhood services – ensuring our kids are ready for kinder, ready for school and ready for life.

Supporting kinders

Families across the state can have greater certainty their kids will have access to a high quality local kinder.

\$42.9 million



– the largest state investment in kinder infrastructure in Victoria's history – to build, upgrade and equip kinders across Victoria so thousands more children will be able to attend. This includes **\$9 million** to construct and co-locate early childhood development facilities at schools.

The Budget also includes:

- **\$8 million** to continue to build a highly skilled early childhood teaching workforce to meet the growing numbers of enrolments in state funded kinder programs, including a suite of scholarships to attract new teachers to the field, as well as supporting educators who wish to upskill to a teaching qualification
- **\$8.9 million** to maintain universal access to 15 hours a week of kindergarten in 2019 with improved educator-to-child ratios, teacher salaries and other costs

\$17.9 million



to fund a Victorian-first language program to deliver language sessions to up to 120 kinders across the state, with another 10 to have up to half of their daily curriculum delivered in a language other than English.

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) service

The Budget provides **\$4 million** for Maternal and Child Health (MCH) services for Aboriginal families. Local government and Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations will deliver MCH services directly or in partnership with local government, and scholarships will be offered to support Aboriginal nurses to undertake study in midwifery and MCH.

Access and inclusion in early childhood

The Education State Early Childhood Reform Plan, announced in last year's Budget, recognises the importance of giving all kids the very best start in life so they are able to thrive at kindergarten and then school.

The Victorian Budget 2018/19 includes:

- **\$4 million** to help our state's most vulnerable children by expanding the LOOKOUT program to kinders for the first time, to support young children in Out of Home Care and to provide free three-year-old kinder for children known to Child Protection and Aboriginal children through the Early Start Kindergarten program
- **\$900,00** for Early Childhood Intervention Services to be continued to ensure more children with additional needs who are ineligible for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) don't miss out.

SCHOOLS

The Victorian Budget 2018/19 continues the Government's commitment to the Education State.

It means across our state, 28 new schools will be built and planned, accommodating more than 15,000 students, with more than 130 existing schools upgraded.

This Budget is investing **\$2.8 billion** to make sure every student has access to a great school, and can develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in life.

Investing in our schools

We'll keep building new schools because every Victorian family, wherever they live, deserves a good quality school. That's why we've invested **\$1.25 billion** in Victoria's education infrastructure.

Funding includes:

\$482.8 million 

to expand, upgrade and modernise 134 schools across the state

- **\$353.2 million** to build and plan 28 new schools in the fastest growing parts of the state, including funding to build 12 new schools
 - this includes **\$46.1 million** for additional stages of seven new schools opening in 2019
- **\$271.7 million** to purchase land for new schools
- **\$45 million** to continue work removing asbestos from schools
- **\$10 million** boost to the School Pride and Sports Fund to help strengthen community pride in local schools and build sporting facilities for students
- **\$10 million** boost to the Inclusive Schools Fund to help more schools build inclusive facilities.

There are now more than 1,300 school upgrades and 70 new school projects across the state.

Supporting students to achieve their best

Ensuring a quality education for everyone, no matter their background or circumstance, is the key to making Victoria the Education State.

The Victorian Government is investing in helping the students who need it most, and the Victorian Budget 2018/19 includes:

- **\$39.2 million** to increase the number of students supported by the English as an Additional Language program for 2019
- **\$44 million** to expand the successful Navigator program, providing intensive outreach support to young people at risk of disengaging from school
- **\$22.1 million** for professional development workshops and teaching tools for teachers and school leaders to improve literacy and numeracy teaching practice. Additionally, every child starting prep in a government school will receive a prep book bag
- **\$22.5 million** to assist eligible students to travel to and from school, including support to meet demand growth, and replacement of buses within the Students with Disabilities Transport Program
- **\$8.9 million** to create safer learning environments for schools as part of the Protective Schools Package.

\$65.5 million 

for student health and wellbeing initiatives in all schools, including 12,000 more health checks for prep students to identify any health and wellbeing issues at the individual level that might impact on the child's learning. This includes a **\$16.3 million** boost to expand speech pathology in schools, the equivalent of an extra 3000 children receiving 11 hours of speech pathology each year.

This initiative means extra occupational therapists and physical therapists, and additional mental health supports in secondary schools.





Supporting Inclusive Education

The Budget will increase the participation and achievement of students with disabilities in government schools. Thousands of children who need extra help will benefit from funding to special schools in the Victorian Budget 2018/19, including:

- **\$10 million** for the Language and Learning Disabilities Support Program and Transition Support to continue

\$93.2 million 

extra funding to ensure that all students with high needs are supported.

Skilling students for the future

Victoria's economy continues to change rapidly, resulting in shifts to jobs and skills needed to thrive in the future world of work. Work will continue to change, affecting the type and number of jobs available and how they are accessed. Effective career education is vital to ensure that students develop the skills to navigate this new landscape. This Budget includes:

- **\$109 million** to redesign Careers Education to assist students to make better career and pathway decisions, and to meet business and industry needs
- **\$50 million** for 1,700 new Head Start Apprenticeships and Traineeships at 100 Victorian government secondary schools, giving students the option of doing an extra year of school to finish as a fully qualified apprentice or trainee. This will help kids start their trade at school and graduate ready for work
- **\$25.9 million** to enhance vocational pathways by improving students' access to high quality Vocational Education and Training in Schools (VETIS)

\$32.9 million 

to improve STEM outcomes through training 200 teachers to become Primary Maths and Science Specialists.



TRAINING AND SKILLS

In Victoria, skilled workers are in high demand.

That's why the Victorian Government is investing **\$644 million** to continue transforming skills and training in Victoria.

The Victorian Government's record investment in major road and rail projects, new schools and hospitals, the NDIS and historic action to curb family violence has created a massive demand for skilled workers.

With high quality TAFE training and the right careers advice, Victorians will be first in line for these new jobs.

Free TAFE for Priority Courses

\$172 million 

for Free TAFE for Priority Courses to provide tuition-fee-free training for 30 non-apprenticeship courses and 18 courses that provide pathways to apprenticeships across the state, for Victorians who are eligible for Victorian Government-subsidised training.

The courses will lead to jobs in high growth industries and important areas for Victoria, including preventing family violence, rolling out the NDIS and delivering our major infrastructure projects.

Supporting our apprentices

Apprentices are the future of our workforce, and the Victorian Government is investing **\$43.8 million** to re-introduce trade papers, implement new independent assessments and update learning materials.

These key reforms will ensure that Victorian apprenticeships and traineeships produce workers with industry-standard skills who are ready for the workforce of the future.

Building better TAFEs

\$120.4 million 

to be invested in three major TAFE projects:

- **\$35.5 million** to redevelop Federation Training Morwell, including a Future Skills Training Centre and a Technical Training Centre of Excellence
- **\$25 million** for Federation Training's Port of Sale Development to consolidate its services in Sale into a new Educational Community and Industry Hub
- **\$59.9 million** to revitalise the Bendigo Kangan Institute Bendigo City Campus.

More funding for more training

\$304 million 

for extra training to meet industry demand for trained graduates that are critical to Victoria's economic prosperity. This investment will fund our TAFEs, Learn Locals and private training providers to deliver more than 30,000 additional training places.





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