Education State Ambition: Learning for life
Excellence in reading, maths, science, critical and creative thinking and in the arts.

Under the Education State, we are working to equip students with the broad range of skills they need to reach their potential, and achieve success in school and in life.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?
Literacy and numeracy are key life skills that enable students to learn and thrive in all curriculum areas. Success in these foundational areas at school will benefit students for the rest of their lives.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills, along with the ability to think critically and find creative solutions for complicated problems are vital for future employment opportunities, in our rapidly changing world.

HOW WILL THESE TARGETS BE MEASURED?
READING
Target: By 2020 for Year 5 and 2025 for Year 9, 25 per cent more students will be reaching the highest levels of achievement in reading.
Excellence in reading is measured using the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy.

MATHS
Target: By 2020 for Year 5 and 2025 for Year 9, 25 per cent more students will be reaching the highest levels of achievement in maths.
Excellence in mathematics is measured using the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy

SCIENCE
Target: By 2025, 33 per cent more 15 year olds will be reaching the highest levels of achievement in scientific literacy.
Scientific literacy is measured using the OECD Programme for International Student Assessment.

CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING
Target: By 2025, 25 per cent more Year 10 students will have developed excellent critical and creative thinking skills.
Excellence in Critical and creative thinking is measured using an assessment administered by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

THE ARTS
By 2025, more Victorian students will reach the highest level of achievement in the Arts*.
Excellence in the arts is measured using an assessment administered by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.
*The target for the Arts will be announced in 2017.

EDUCATION STATE INITIATIVES
Framework for Improving Student Outcomes
The Framework for Improving Student Outcomes uses the latest research on student learning and global best-practice to assist schools to focus their efforts on key areas that are known to have the greatest impact on school improvement. This Framework will allow schools to make improvements based on the needs of their students, school and local community.

Victorian Curriculum
The new Victorian Curriculum will ensure that Victorian students are better equipped to deal with our changing world. The new curriculum includes a strong focus on the foundational skills of literacy and numeracy and on personal and social skills, thinking skills and new areas of learning such as computational thinking.

The Primary Mathematics and Science Specialist Initiative
New funding for the Primary Maths and Science Specialists initiative will train 200 primary school teachers as maths and science specialists in 100 of Victoria’s most disadvantaged government primary schools.
State Schools Spectacular
The Spectacular includes a cast of 3000 Victorian government school students and promotes student engagement and educational outcomes by boosting motivation and student attendance, building confidence and self-esteem, leadership skills, cooperation, collaboration, forging friendships and a sense of belonging. Its dual aim is to provide an invaluable performing arts opportunity to Victoria’s government school students and to showcase the enormous talent that exists in our schools.

“I have big dreams and sometimes I wonder if those dreams can be achieved, but I have to start somewhere, and I believe that with the programs I’ve implemented within my school, change is happening.”
Jacquie Gore, Teacher and multi-award winner 2016 Victorian Education Excellence Awards Warrnambool Primary School

HOW HAS VICTORIA PERFORMED IN THE FIRST YEAR OF EDUCATION STATE?

**READING – YEAR 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 Result</th>
<th>2020 Target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>38.3%</td>
<td>46.1%</td>
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**READING – YEAR 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2016 Result</th>
<th>2025 Target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
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MORE INFORMATION
For more information about Education State targets and to view the work that is being achieved in schools in the first twelve months, visit www.education.vic.gov.au