

Victorian Budget 2021–22

Budget highlights

Early Childhood Education

The Victorian Budget 2021-22 invests **\$400.7 million** over four years in early childhood to continue the nation-leading Three-Year-Old Kindergarten roll-out, to upgrade and build new early learning facilities and to ensure our most vulnerable children remain supported as our state rebuilds from the coronavirus pandemic.

\$167.1 million



to continue the roll-out of universal Three-Year-Old Kindergarten, supporting children to access the benefits of two years of kindergarten before school. **\$32.4 million** of this funding will also expand workforce attraction and retention activities, to support the supply of qualified early childhood teachers to deliver kindergarten programs as they are established across the state. **\$44.8 million** will fund more kinders on school sites so families can 'ditch the double drop off'.

\$91.6 million



to complete the establishment of the Child Link register with a digital platform to enable the systematic sharing of factual information to promote child wellbeing and safety outcomes in line with the *Child Legislation Amendment (Information Sharing) Act 2018*.

\$2.7 million to continue the early childhood language program, including grants to kindergartens to support delivery of language programs, along with further professional support and training.

\$8 million to expand the Koorie Pre-School Assistants program to four new locations and continue the Koorie Families as First Educators, as part of a wider \$39.3 million investment to improve the educational outcomes of young Koorie people.

\$31.2 million to support Early Years Management to improve service viability, access and quality, recognising their important role in helping deliver Three-Year-Old Kindergarten.

\$33.8 million



to deliver tailored support for vulnerable and disadvantaged children to participate in early childhood education and care.



Schools

All Victorian school students will continue to be supported to achieve their best regardless of their background or circumstances, with an investment of **\$716 million** in school education through the Victorian Budget 2021-22.

As our state rebuilds from the coronavirus pandemic, the Victorian Government is ensuring our schools are supporting their students – and their families.

Student wellbeing

\$217.8 million



to ensure our children and young people can receive the mental health support when and where they need it most. This includes **\$200 million** for a new School Mental Health Fund, which schools will use to fund programs, staff and other support that is specific to their school community's needs from an evidence-based 'menu' of interventions.

\$43.4 million



to provide access to primary health care in schools through the continuation of funding for the Doctors in Secondary Schools program for students in participating schools.

\$25.2 million



to continue delivering transport assistance through the Students with Disabilities Transport Program, supporting eligible students to attend their designated government specialist education setting.

\$19.6 million to continue the outside school hours care (OSHC) demonstration pilot to give young people with disability free, high-intensity support OSHC and school holiday programs at six government school sites.

\$12.5 million to continue implementation of the school-wide positive behaviour support (SWPBS) framework.

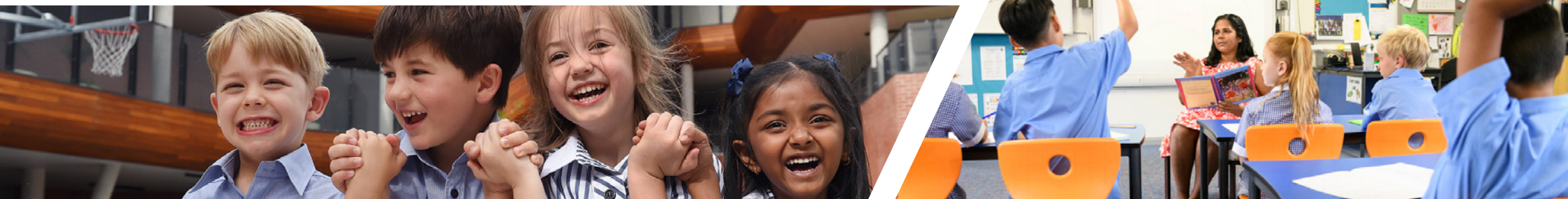
Teaching staff

\$148.2 million



to establish the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership. The new specialist statutory entity will have a dedicated focus on delivering advanced professional learning for Victorian teachers and educational leaders.

\$31.2 million to deliver on the actions of Marrung to improve the educational outcomes of Koorie students in Victoria. This includes funding to continue the Koorie Literacy and Numeracy program and Koorie Engagement Support Officer programs. It will also support community organisations to build capability and preparedness to partner with our schools. It will also see the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association host 45 Koorie Education Roundtables across the state, ensuring Aboriginal Victorians have a voice on what's working and what's not working for Koorie students in our schools.



\$19.5 million to continue all 17 current Turnaround Teams in government schools. Turnaround Teams will continue to work intensively with schools facing significant and complex challenges to improve student outcomes and create sustainable change by building leadership capability and transforming school processes and structures.

\$12.2 million



to expand and establish new support to reduce the burden of administrative and compliance activities on school principals, enabling them to focus on leading teaching and learning, reducing workload and supporting workforce wellbeing.

\$4.8 million



in additional funding to attract and develop quality teachers in Victorian schools.

School programs

\$25.2 million in continued support for government school students who do not speak English at home to become more proficient.

\$8.8 million to support secondary students to access high-quality VET offerings for the second half of 2022.

\$3.5 million



to continue the Music in Schools program to ensure student access to quality music education in government schools.

\$55.2 million to continue swimming and water safety education programs to government, Catholic and specialist schools, and to introduce these programs to government English language schools.

\$41.7 million will be provided to schools for transport costs associated with swimming and water safety education, and for essential materials for students undertaking vocational education and training (VET) subjects as part of senior secondary schooling.

\$23.1 million



in additional funding for onsite school technical support services for government schools, to ensure technology used by students and teachers is reliable and information technology issues are promptly addressed.

\$20.5 million in additional funding for Tech Schools in the Ballarat, Banyule Nillumbik, Bendigo, Casey, Geelong, Gippsland, Monash, Whittlesea, Wyndham and Yarra Ranges regions, which are building students' STEM skills and connecting them to the jobs of the future. This funding will also pilot a Tech School delivery model for students in remote areas of Gippsland.

\$3 million to support school communities and young people in West Heidelberg, Dandenong, Broadmeadows, Shepparton, North Melbourne and Wyndham areas to be more engaged and informed to reduce the risk of isolation, marginalisation and attraction to violent extremism.



Schools Infrastructure

The Victorian Budget 2021–22 invests **\$1.6 billion** to build new schools and improve existing schools to ensure our kids have the bright futures they deserve.

\$491.6 million 

to build **13 new schools**, contributing to the government commitment to open 100 new schools across the state by 2026. Additional stages of new schools will also be constructed at three schools.

\$340 million to upgrade 35 metropolitan schools and 17 regional schools.

\$276.4 million to acquire land for 14 future school sites in the following municipalities: Cardinia, Casey, Hume, Melton, Mitchell, Port Phillip and Wyndham.

\$188 million will go towards essential maintenance to ensure our schools are modern and properly maintained.

\$105.3 million to be provided for relocatable buildings to relieve pressure at schools that are reaching their capacity and to provide additional functional spaces for learning.

\$85 million 

to expand capacity to meet enrolment demand at six established area schools. The expanded capacity will be ready for the 2024 school year.

\$10 million 

to continue to provide school infrastructure such as playgrounds, outdoor sensory areas and quiet re-engagement spaces through the Inclusive Schools Fund.

\$20 million to provide opportunities for schools to seek funding for minor capital projects that are a priority for their school through the Minor Capital Works Fund.

\$15 million to improve access to school facilities for students with disabilities and additional needs.

\$1 million for planning for a future upgrade of Verney Road School in Shepparton and broader specialist provision across the Shepparton region.



TAFE and Training

The Victorian Budget 2021–22 invests **\$383.8 million** to give more people the skills they need for emerging and in-demand jobs. A new skills authority will make sure training matches the needs of students, employers and communities. Funding is also being increased for TAFE facilities, and for high-quality affordable training.

\$99.2 million



to further cut costs for students who undertake study in priority areas – with a TAFE or other registered training provider.

\$72.4 million for further upgrading of TAFE campuses, including major redevelopments in Broadmeadows and Shepparton, and planning for training provision at Melton.

\$12 million for TAFEs to upgrade facilities and equipment to support training for apprentices and trainees.

\$85.9 million



to set up the Victorian Skills Authority. The Authority will draw on existing expertise to build even stronger connections across the sector. It will analyse data and job-market insights, and publish for the first time a comprehensive annual skills plan. This will sharpen how the sector responds to employment demands – and give students confidence that training will lead to a job and a career.

\$2.7 million for Victorian Aboriginal students to undertake Certificate II and III in Learning an Australian First Nations Language at TAFE, for free, through Marrung: Preserving Aboriginal languages.

\$7.9 million to enhance practical placements for TAFE students (in areas such as allied health and community services) by increasing funding for placement support officers.

\$6.2 million to increase places in pre-accredited digital literacy and employability skills courses, boosting the job prospects of educationally disadvantaged Victorians. Funding will also deliver a new literacy and numeracy assessment tool for TAFEs and other providers, including Learn Local providers in the area of adult and community further education.

\$7 million to support the work of a new Office of TAFE Coordination and Delivery, which will foster collaboration across the TAFE network. This will help TAFEs share services, enhance quality, and better meet the training needs of students, employers and communities.

\$88.8 million



to make vocational education and training even more accessible for more Victorians, through more fee concessions for eligible students.



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