

# STATE BUDGET

## 2018-19

### MINISTER FOR EDUCATION JOHN GARDNER MP MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 4 September 2018

### **Record investment in education a hallmark of Marshall Liberal Government's first budget**

Record funding for education is a hallmark of the 2018-19 State Budget, as the Marshall Liberal Government recognises investment in our children and young people as a key driver for South Australia's future prosperity.

More than \$1 billion is being invested into capital projects, including two brand new birth to Year 12 schools for the metropolitan area delivered under a Public Private Partnership model, and a new \$100 million school in Whyalla.

Recurrent annual funding for schools will also increase by \$515 million from 2017-18 to 2021-22 under the Marshall Government – a record investment.

***This is the biggest investment in schools by any State Government in the state's history.***

This year's budget delivers a suite of election commitments, as we strive to deliver the best education system in Australia for our children and young people.

Measures include delivering \$20.9 million over four years to support the Government's Literacy Guarantee, which includes a range of measures to give students the best possible start to their education.

\$7.5 million has been provided over the next three years to assist planning the transition of Year 7 students moving into a secondary school setting by 2022. \$20.2 million in funding will be provided in 2021-22 for additional resources, including 215 full-time equivalent positions, reflecting a part-year impact of the estimated ongoing costs of around \$40 million per annum from the 2022 school year.

\$12.2 million over four years will support the Government's Languages in Schools initiative, increasing the focus on South Australian children learning a second language. This includes enabling four new public schools to offer the highly-regarded International Baccalaureate and expanding the Languages Alive holiday program for primary schools.

A package of measures to address bullying, truancy and substance abuse in our schools is supported with \$3.2 million in 2018-19, increasing to \$4.1 million by 2021-

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22. This includes providing teachers and students with training and support services to help detect and respond to bullying, including cyber bullying.

The Government is committed to ensuring a fresh start for TAFE, providing \$109.8 million over five years in additional resources to support continued service delivery, to implement a new quality system and ensure compliance with the national vocational education training standards and in recognition that previous external revenue budgets were unachievable.

\$5.6 million over four years has been provided to implement entrepreneurial specialist programs in four high schools across South Australia, including establishing new SACE subjects which focus on business and entrepreneurialism to be introduced into schools.

Minister for Education John Gardner said that the 2018-19 State Budget confirmed that under a Marshall Liberal Government, South Australia's children and young people will be supported to fulfil their potential.

"We want our schools to deliver the best outcomes they possibly can, and for our students to be the beneficiaries of the best education system in Australia," said Minister Gardner.

"Today marks a significant turning point for the future of children and young people in our state.

"We're delivering our Literacy Guarantee to give all students the best possible foundation upon which to build their educational success.

"Our Year 7 students will soon benefit from specialist teaching in a high school setting, as designed in the national curriculum, ensuring our students are no longer left behind.

"We're reinvigorating the study of languages in our schools, for which the Liberal Government has long advocated, recognising its increasing importance in a globalised market.

"The Government is taking a strong stance on bullying by increasing resources to help keep our children safer, while also addressing the issue of truancy.

"We have reaffirmed our commitment to providing a fresh start for TAFE, and the whole training sector, after it was let down by the previous Government's Skills for All debacle and TAFE scandal.

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“The significant investment in entrepreneurial and vocational education also ensures that training will be connected to the needs of the broader economy to lead to real jobs and better investment outcomes.

“This is in keeping with the Government’s focus on increasing numbers of trainees and apprentices backed up by the over \$202.6 million Skilling South Australia investment through the Department of Industry and Skills.”

Today, the State Government also announced it will deliver its commitment to double funding for local history grants and ensure the History Trust can re-establish the role of the State Historian, by providing \$768,000 over the forward estimates.

In order to meet the \$715 million savings task by 2021-22 left by the former Labor government and to deliver the new State Government’s priorities, the 2018-19 State Budget includes the following savings measures in the Education portfolio:

- \$69.9 million in savings, over five years to 2021-22, through discontinuing the capital expenditure to deliver a Laptop for Students Program for every Year 10 public school student, with funding reallocated to other educational priorities.
- An operational efficiency that will deliver a reduction of over 200 full-time equivalents in non-teaching and non-direct support areas, and schools will not be impacted. This strategy will enable increased investment to improve education outcomes, and will include a reduction of 26 FTE totalling approximately \$2 million in 2018-19 and \$3.2 million by 2021-22. This will support further re-investment in schools.
- Net savings of \$32.8 million over four years from operating efficiencies within TAFE SA, resulting from the closure of several metropolitan and regional campuses with low utilisation rates (including Tea Tree Gully, Parafield, Port Adelaide, Urrbrae, Wudinna, Roxby Downs and Coober Pedy campuses) and the consolidation of service delivery in other sites, the implementation of operational efficiencies to reduce the operating costs across remaining campuses and general corporate efficiencies.