



The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Emergency Services

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Cr Sophie Ramsay
Mayor
City of Melton
P O Box 21
MELTON 3337



Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter regarding school provision in the City of Melton.

The Andrews Labor Government is committed to making Victoria the Education State. Central to this is ensuring that we have the right school infrastructure in place to meet the needs of growing communities. The last two state budgets delivered the largest ever investment in Victorian school infrastructure, allocating \$1.8 billion to build, upgrade and maintain schools across the state. This funding means that 42 new school projects are now in the pipeline which will come online in the next few years.

The Government is conscious that enrolment growth pressures are being felt in a number of communities, including in Eynesbury and the broader Melton area. Therefore, the last two State Budgets have seen significant investment in the City of Melton including:

- Funding allocated from a \$142 million investment to buy land for proposed schools in growing communities across the state including Taylors Hill West Secondary College, Burnside Primary School and Truganina East P-9 College
- \$5.4 million for the upgrade and modernisation of facilities at Melton Specialist School
- \$12 million for the construction of Taylors Hill West Secondary College
- Planning funding for Melton West Primary School and Melton Secondary College.

Further funding for new school projects will be considered as part of the Government's 2017-18 budget deliberations. The Victorian State Budget will be released on Tuesday 2 May 2017.

I can advise that representatives from the Department of Education and Training attended a meeting at the City of Melton on 2 November 2016 to discussed school provision planning priorities.

I also understand that a dialogue has been established between Exford Primary School and the Victorian School Building Authority regarding facilities at the school.

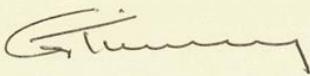
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The Department of Education and Training will continue to work with the City of Melton and other relevant stakeholders, to monitor and plan for government education provision in the area to ensure all Victorian students have access to high quality education as the population continues to grow.

If your officers would like further information about planning of new schools, they can contact Ms Lynda Rogers, Executive Director, Resources Strategy Division, Department of Education and Training, on 9637 3860 or by email: provision.planning@edumail.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely



The Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Acting Minister for Education