



The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier
Minister for Education

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Bob Turner
Mayor
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Dear Mr Turner

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Thank you for your letter regarding the Government's 2019–20 State Budget funding allocation to various schools in the City of Melton.

The Andrews Labor Government is building the Education State, so that every Victorian gets the opportunity for a great education and every community has access to a great school. Having modern and up-to-date classrooms and school facilities is a fundamental part of ensuring that every child has the best possible education. We cannot build the Education State without investing in our schools' bricks and mortar. This has been demonstrated through the allocation of more than \$5.6 billion over the past five State Budgets to build new schools and modernise existing ones.

The Government made a commitment to deliver new schools in the City of Melton and upgrade and modernise existing schools and, to this extent, funding to buy land in Melton and Aintree for new schools was provided in the 2017–18 and 2018–19 State Budgets. I am delighted to advise that the future Eynesbury Station Primary School (interim name, to open in 2021) and Rockbank North Primary School (interim name, to open in 2021) will share in the Government's significant investment of \$624.8 million for the construction of new schools under the 2019–20 State Budget. This investment will continue to deliver on our commitment to build 100 new schools over the next eight years and assist in meeting the increasing demand for student places throughout Victoria.

In addition, to help cater to the growing future needs of local families across our growing suburbs and regions, the Government has allocated \$46 million in the 2019–20 State Budget towards the purchase of land for four new schools. This will include the purchased land in the municipality of Melton.

To make sure every community has a great local school, an additional \$362 million was provided as part of the 2019–20 State Budget to upgrade classrooms and facilities across 59 existing schools and planning funding to prepare for 44 more. This included \$6.2 million for Exford Primary School to replace old relocatable buildings with permanent new classrooms, as well as planning for future upgrades. As you are aware, it also included \$650,000 for planning and transforming Staughton College's old classrooms and facilities into modern learning environments. This will enable the college to plan this year so a project can move quickly into construction when funded in a future State Budget.

Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the *Public Records Act 1973* and the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address.



As part of its investment in three-year-old kindergarten, the Government has committed more than \$1.68 billion over the next decade to support the building and expansion of almost 1,000 new and existing kindergartens so that children have the right learning environments and facilities, no matter where they live. This represents the largest investment in kindergarten infrastructure in the state's history.

If you would like further information, you may contact Ms Annie Chen, Manager, Priorities Unit, Victorian School Building Authority on (03) 7022 2527 or by email: chen.annie.a@edumail.vic.gov.au.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



8-8-19

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Cc: Steve McGhie MP, Member for Melton