

Victorian Election 2014: Labor's Education and Skills Package

October 2014

On 26 October 2014, Opposition Leader, the Hon. Daniel Andrews MP, officially launched Victorian Labor's Election campaign, vowing to make Victoria the "education state" by outlining a \$1.3 billion education and skills package.

Mr Andrews committed to rebuild Victoria's education system, with plans to upgrade schools across the state (many of which have already been outlined), as well as invest heavily in the bailout of closed and struggling TAFEs.

Furthermore, Mr Andrews also announced that a Labor Government would reintroduce ten technical schools across the state, including one in Geelong, that would focus on local industries and have their courses designed in consultation with business, TAFEs and universities.

The schools would see students in Years 7 to 12 maintain enrolment in their local secondary school while simultaneously receiving a technical education.

Speaking at the party's campaign launch in Geelong, a key battleground for the upcoming election, Mr Andrews said he wanted 'every square inch of the education system from pre-school to post-grad' to help kids build their career and begin their lives.

For access to Mr Andrews' full speech, click [here](#).

Labor's full suite of policy announcements included:

Schools Capital

- \$510 million capital investment to rebuild and upgrade state schools;
- \$120 million for Catholic and independent schools; and
- \$50 million to upgrade kindergartens across the state.

Students and Families

- \$150 million Camps, Schools and Excursions Fund to assist disadvantaged students;
- \$15.5 million partnership with State Schools Relief to provide school uniforms and shoes to struggling families. This partnership would also include free eye tests and glasses for students at 250 disadvantaged schools; and
- \$13.5 million to fund 500 breakfast clubs at disadvantaged schools, serving meals to 25,000 children per day.



TAFE and Skills

- \$320 million TAFE Rescue Fund to reopen closed campuses, bailout institutes at risk of financial ruin, and upgrade TAFE buildings across the state; and
- \$125 million to reopen ten regional technical schools.

These commitments add to Labor's previously announced *Plan For Jobs and Growth*.

For access to Hawker Britton's Victorian Election Brief, click [here](#).

For access to Hawker Britton's Occasional Paper on Victorian Labor's Plan for Jobs and Growth, click [here](#).

For access to Hawker Britton's Occasional Paper on Back To Work: Victorian Labor's Plan for 100,000 Jobs, click [here](#).