

Better Schools More Jobs

The Brumby Government is delivering record capital funding to build a better school system for the future.

This massive school building program will also create local jobs and stimulate Victoria's economy.

The Brumby Government's massive investment in school building through the Victorian Schools Plan – combined with the Federal Government's stimulus package – renews our schools while boosting employment in the building industry.

\$402 million for new schools and better facilities

Under the third tranche of the Victorian School Plan \$402 million has been allocated in this Budget to rebuild, renovate or extend 113 more Victorian schools as part of the Brumby Government's \$1.9 billion commitment to rebuild, renovate or extend 500 government schools in this term of government.

This unprecedented building program – combined with the Australian Government's Economic Stimulus Plan – will also stimulate the Victorian economy by creating local jobs.

The Victorian School Plan is the Brumby Government's 10-year plan to transform Victorian schools by funding the rebuilding, renovating or extending of all government schools by 2016–17.

Building projects in the 2009–10 State Budget are:

\$92 million for school regeneration

Schools will be transformed into modern learning environments where 21st Century teaching and learning can happen in more flexible learning spaces. These regeneration projects will include:

- \$20 million for the Keysborough/Springvale Regeneration Project
- \$15 million for the Wodonga Regeneration Project
- \$11.1 million for the Altona/Bayside Regeneration Project
- \$10.8 million for the Wangaratta Regeneration Project
- \$3 million for the Bendigo Education Plan
- \$1 million for the Maroondah Education Coalition

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\$128 million for school modernisation

New libraries, gymnasiums, classrooms, multi-purpose science and ICT centres will be built. Modernisation projects include:

- \$11.2 million for Balwyn High School
- \$10.5 million for Mount Waverley Secondary College
- \$10.4 million for Pembroke Secondary College
- \$10 million for Healesville High School
- \$9 million for Blackburn High School
- \$9 million for Eltham High School
- \$7.2 million for Cranbourne Secondary College
- \$6 million for Gisborne Secondary College
- \$4.8 million for Trafalgar High School
- \$4.3 million for Western Port Secondary College

\$47.3 million for replacement schools

Children with disabilities will enjoy a brand new \$14.2 million high quality contemporary school, with Glenroy Specialist School being built on a new site.

This also includes \$28 million for the replacement of Western Autistic School, the new Albert Park Secondary College and funding to relocate the Albert Park childcare facility – all announced in the 2008-09 Budget Update.

\$19 million for new relocatable classrooms

Old portable buildings will be replaced with modern state-of-the-art comfortable relocatable classrooms.

This funding is the second and final tranche of the Brumby Government's \$45 million commitment to provide 400 relocatable classrooms – with \$26 million provided in the last State Budget.

This investment will allow Victoria's government school system to be more flexible, providing schools with the ability to manage changing student numbers from year to year.

\$31 million for more school land

This funding will ensure that land is available so the Government can continue to build new schools in the future to keep pace with population growth.

\$12 million for science and maths specialist centres in schools

To engage students in maths and science as a key part of 21st Century learning, three state-of-the-art centres dedicated to maths and science teaching will be built.

\$7.6 million for schools to modernise or upgrade their buildings

Schools requiring smaller modernisations and upgrades will be identified under the Better Schools Today program.

\$25.1 million for new schools in growth areas

The Brumby Government will continue to respond to population growth by building contemporary state-of-the-art schools in growth areas to ensure that young Victorians have every opportunity to shine.

The growth areas are in the municipalities of Wyndham, Hume, Melton, Whittlesea, Casey and Cardinia.

Many families with young children live in these areas and they need schools built in a time frame which allows the school to grow with the community.

New schools to be built include:

- \$10 million for Manor Lakes P–12 Specialist College (Stage 3)
- \$7 million for Point Cook Senior Secondary College (Stage 3)
- \$4.1 million for Mount Ridley P–12 College (Stage 3)
- \$4 million for Timbarra 7–9 (Stage 1)

\$16 million to help secure the future of small rural schools

Rural schools lie at the heart of their communities and this investment will ensure small rural schools continue to thrive with better facilities. Schools that will be funded include Avenel, Barnawartha, Grasmere, Inverloch, Katunga, St Leonards, Toolamba and Teesdale primary schools.

\$24 million for selective entry schools

The Brumby Government has committed to building two new selective entry high schools in Berwick and Melbourne's West by 2011.

This Budget provides \$24 million to build the new schools, increasing to four the number of selective entry high schools that will provide young Victorians with more choice in the government school system.

The two current selective entry schools are Melbourne High School and MacRobertson Girls' High School.