



# *State Budget 2005*

3e

FROM THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Tuesday May 3, 2005

## **INVESTING IN NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**

An additional **\$151 million** over four years has been allocated to lift numeracy, literacy and retention rates and help meet rising education costs in non-government schools.

The Minister for Education and Training, Lynne Kosky, said **\$115 million** over four years would be directed towards helping needy students in non-government schools meet educational targets around literacy, numeracy and retention.

“This Budget is building on the work of the Bracks Government to ensure Victoria is the best place to raise a family,” Ms Kosky said.

“In the last five years we have worked to improve reading writing and numeracy skills and encouraged students to stay at school longer across the whole school system.

“We are committed to ensuring high quality results for all Victorian students, whether they are in Government, Catholic or Independent Schools.

“The Bracks Government is providing non Government schools with more resources to help meet our education targets.”

Ms Kosky said a new funding model similar to that introduced to Victorian Government schools this year would ensure that funding was directed at students most in need of additional support.

The model will change the way State Government funding is calculated for all Victoria’s 700 non-government schools.

The model has been developed in conjunction with representatives of the non-government sector.

“We have developed a needs based funding system so resources can be best targeted to students that most need additional support,” Ms Kosky said.

Ms Kosky said another **\$36 million** over four years from the \$173 million Additional Resources for Schools initiative would be allocated over four years to meet enrolment costs, and to enable the sector to better meet education targets.

“The Bracks Government is working to build a better future, improving educational outcomes, while keeping a strong balanced Budget,” Ms Kosky said.

“This Budget is building on previous investments to provide opportunities which improve the skills and knowledge of all children, regardless of where they go to school.”