

# Media Release

**The Hon James Merlino MP**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education  
Minister for Emergency Services



Victorian  
Labor

**DELIVERING  
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Monday, 12 November 2018

## DELIVERING A GREAT LOCAL SCHOOL FOR SOUTH MELBOURNE

South Melbourne families will have the great local school their kids deserve, with a re-elected Andrews Labor Government to contribute \$5 million towards an upgrade for Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School.

The funding will be used to upgrade classrooms and construct a new school hall.

The upgrade is part of a new \$400 million fund Labor will establish in partnership with the non-government school sector to upgrade and build new non-government schools across Victoria. The fund will also support the removal of dangerous asbestos and cladding in non-government schools.

Victoria is growing faster than any other state and territory and our schools need to accommodate more than 90,000 extra students by 2022. This means our government, Catholic and independent school sectors will all need better infrastructure to meet this demand.

Over one third of Victorian students attend a Catholic or independent school and only Labor will make sure they have the modern facilities they need to achieve their best.

The Liberals slashed \$1 billion out of our education system and didn't spend a single cent on Catholic or independent schools during their four years in Government, leaving thousands of Victorian students in old and crowded classrooms.

The Andrews Labor Government has already delivered \$120 million to upgrade and build new Catholic and independent schools across Victoria, giving parents more choice about their children's education and making sure all Victorian kids have access to a great local school.

We also provided certainty for Catholic and independent schools by passing the *Education and Training Reform Act* – guaranteeing per-student funding to non-government schools is at least 25 per cent of per-student funding to government schools.

Only Labor will keep delivering for Victorians with a great local school, regardless of where they live.

### **Quote attributable to the Minister for Education James Merlino**

*"Families in South Melbourne deserve to know their kids are getting the very best start in life. With these upgrades we'll make sure they are."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Albert Park Martin Foley**

*"We've got a great mix of schools in South Melbourne and only Labor will make sure local families can feel confident that whatever choice they make, they'll have a great local school."*