



Help shape the

HAVE

EDUCATION

YOUR SAY

STATE

This is just the start of a discussion about our education system and what it can look like in ten years' time and beyond. You deserve a say – because it's about your future and the future of our children.

Teach us about your child, your classroom, your community. Show us what's good and bad about the system and tell us where we need to head. Help us shape the Education State.

Stay tuned for news about consultation sessions in your area or visit educationstate.education.vic.gov.au

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

- More young children meeting key developmental targets
- Measures of achievement that lead the world
- More students performing at the highest academic levels
- Increasing the school retention rate in years 9 to 12
- Increasing the retention rate of young people in training
- Stronger TAFEs, giving students the skills they need

WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW

- What's good and bad about our education system and what do we need to focus on?
- What should the Education State – and our education system – look and feel like?
- How do we change our education system to meet the changes in our economy?
- Should we measure our performance against schools interstate and overseas?
- How can we encourage more Victorians to stay in school or learn new skills?
- How do we give our most vulnerable kids the best possible start in life?

Education is everything.

But our economy is changing.

And our education system needs to change with it.

We need to make sure our kids get the best start in life at the best schools in the world.

We need public schools that families can be proud of, with talented teachers in every classroom.

We need to help people learn new skills so they're confident about their future.

No matter their background, postcode, age or ability, everyone has the right to learn – that's why we're making Victoria the Education State.

We've already made a strong start, but there's a lot more to do.

How do we change our education system to meet the changes in our economy?

How can we make our kids more comfortable at school and more confident in the classroom?

How do we encourage Victorians, young and old,

to get new skills – and how do we encourage businesses, big and small, to support them?

How can the success that's attained by some become the success that's guaranteed for all?

Victorians have the answers.

We're starting a discussion about the future of our education system.

Teach us about your child, your classroom, your community.

Show us what's good and bad about the system and tell us where we need to head.

Help us shape the Education State.

We want you to have your say – because it's your future.

JAMES MERLINO MP
DEPUTY PREMIER

Victoria's education system is one of the best in the world – but that's not good enough. We can be smarter and we can do better.

- Most Victorian children go to kindergarten and get a good start
- More five-year-olds in Victoria are developmentally on track
- More of our students complete Year 12 compared to the other states
- Victorian kids are more computer literate compared to other countries
- International education is our largest single export industry
- Our universities are home to some of the world's best researchers
- Too many young children aren't developing fast enough for school
- Student achievement has stalled here, but it has leapt ahead overseas
- In Victoria, fewer students perform at the highest academic levels
- Every year, 10,000 young Victorians drop out of school in years 9 to 11
- A further 6,000 leave school to get training, only to give up within a year
- People are missing out on training, with TAFE enrolments dropping

What else have you observed? Let us know.

IDEAS FOR OUR FUTURE

To help us shape the Education State, we've researched the best education systems around the world and we've found the things they have in common.

Some of the ideas are about students; some are about parents and teachers. But all of them are about fairness, trust and achievement and each of them should guide our reforms.

The long-term plan for the future of our education system starts with a discussion about these ideas. They're the foundation for the Education State.

Excellence: Children and young adults shouldn't just be smart and hard-working. They should be happy and confident, too.

Our students should lead the world not just in literacy and numeracy, but in sciences, languages, music and the arts.

Equity: Every Victorian gets the chance to learn, no matter their background, postcode, age or ability. It's about fairness.

Expertise: Our educators and teachers must be recognised as highly-skilled professionals working in a highly-regarded career.

Businesses big and small should have the confidence to grow, backed by a workforce with the best skills in the world.

Lifelong learning: People can transform their lives, their careers and their future with a new set of skills.

All new parents should get the support and advice they need to help their children thrive.

Partnering with communities: Our schools, kinders, TAFEs and universities working closely with local families and local businesses.

Kinders and public schools that the community can be proud of; that parents can have faith in.

Integrity and accountability: Educators know they can make decisions backed by evidence, and parents know they can help shape our schools.

OUR ECONOMY

Education drives our economy. Over the past 20 years, 40 per cent of productivity growth came from the quality and skills of our workforce.

But our economy is changing fast, and our education system must change with it. We have to help young people get the skills they need for the jobs they want.

In the future, there will be more jobs in digital processing, advanced manufacturing, information and technology. There will be jobs that we can't even imagine.

The Andrews Labor Government has identified the six Victorian industries that are primed for extraordinary growth – the six industries where our state can lead the world:

- Medical technology and pharmaceuticals
- New energy technology
- Transport, defence and construction technology
- Food and fibre
- International education
- Professional services



WE'VE ALREADY STARTED

The 2015-16 Victorian Budget invests \$3.9 billion in kinders, schools and TAFEs, because everyone in the Education State deserves the best start and the best skills.

We're providing \$730 million for new and upgraded schools and kinders, \$350 million to rescue our TAFE system and \$8 million to establish ten new Tech Schools.

We're also providing \$178 million to help struggling parents cover the costs of excursions, camps, uniforms and breakfast, because no child should miss out.

Under this Budget, Victoria is also meeting our obligations under Gonski for the first time in the years 2015, 2016 and 2017. We're getting on with it, but there's a lot more work to do.