



## Investing in education and training

The McGowan Labor Government is committed to ensuring Western Australian public schools offer students the best possible opportunities to learn.

We continue to invest in high-quality infrastructure and facilities at public schools, while also ensuring there is support for students' well-being.

This year, we are committing to provide further support for students with disability, while also increasing the capacity of schools across the State to meet future demand.

We are focused on building strong, safe and fair school communities – and this comprehensive investment is making sure we put young Western Australians on the best possible path to a quality education.

### Education at a glance

The McGowan Labor Government is increasing funding for WA education in the 2021-22 State Budget - delivering \$6 billion for Western Australian schools. This includes new schools and facilities, support for student mental health and well-being, and additional funding for students with disability and those who speak English as an additional language.

Responsible Budget management gives the McGowan Government the capacity to invest in vital services like education. In this year's State Budget, WA students will benefit from:

- \$449.5 million for new and improved school facilities in 2021-22;
- \$104 million to support students' mental health and well-being over the next four years;
- An additional \$170.1 million over the next four years to provide support for growth in numbers of students with disability;
- \$162.1 million increase in recurrent education budget this financial year; and
- \$18.3 million to ensure schools can continue an enhanced cleaning program for the rest of the school year in line with current COVID-19 health advice.

### Building school infrastructure

\$449.5 million will be invested in building and upgrading schools and school facilities throughout Western Australia.

Construction of four new primary schools to open in 2022:

- \$23.4 million Shorehaven Primary School
- \$22 million Riva Primary School
- \$18.4 million Burns Beach Primary School
- \$17.9 million Treeby Primary School

Planning is underway for new primary schools to open in 2023:

- Landsdale South Primary School (planning name)
- Wellard Village Primary School (planning name)
- Madora Bay Primary School (planning name)
- Yarralinka Primary School (second stage)
- West Swan (Dayton) Primary School (planning name)

The McGowan Government's comprehensive program to modernise Western Australia's public secondary schools and district high schools over the next four years and deliver on our election commitments includes:

- \$2 million for planning to commence for Stage 2 and 3 facilities at Alkimos College and Yanchep Secondary College respectively;

- \$21.5 million for an additional classroom block, including STEM facilities, at Byford Secondary College;
- \$8.5 million to upgrade the administration block, build new English and Maths classrooms and upgrade a STEM classroom at Albany Senior High School;
- \$6.3 million for a new performing arts facility, plus refurbished STEM classroom at Balga Senior High School;
- \$4.4 million to upgrade the canteen and build a new STEM classroom Broome Senior High School;
- \$12 million towards Stage 2 facilities at Darling Range Sports College;
- \$1 million for secondary school upgrades at Donnybrook District High School;
- \$32.3 million for new classroom blocks and STEM facilities at Duncraig Senior High School;
- \$15 million for the redevelopment of Springfield Primary School;
- \$7 million for a new Design and Technology block at Eaton Community College;
- \$13.9 million for a new sports hall, refurbished performing arts centre and new STEM classroom at Greenwood College;
- \$23 million to commence the staged redevelopment of John Curtin College of the Arts including STEM;
- \$8.5 million to construct a new sports hall, modification of existing sports hall into a performing arts centre, refurbished STEM classroom at Kelmscott Senior High School;
- \$9 million for a new gymnasium and STEM facilities at Melville Senior High School;
- \$15 million for a new classroom block at Mount Lawley Senior High School;
- \$35 million to redevelop and provide additional permanent accommodation and a new science block and STEM classrooms at Rossmoyne Senior High School;
- \$5 million for a new performing arts centre and new STEM classroom at Warwick Senior High School;
- \$10 million for a new classroom block and a new food and textile classroom at Halls Creek District High School; and
- \$9.7 million for a new sports hall with stage and classrooms, and refurbishment of science laboratories and upgrades at Roleystone Community College.

## Investing in our schools

The State Budget includes investment in new permanent facilities to replace transportable classrooms and provide additional accommodation at schools:

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| ■ \$3.5 million for Baler Primary School        | ■ \$3 million for Camboon Primary School       |
| ■ \$2.5 million for Ballajura Primary School    | ■ \$4.5 million for Cassia Primary School      |
| ■ \$5.5 million for Baynton West Primary School | ■ \$9.7 million for Scarborough Primary School |

Landsdale South Primary School (planning name) will benefit from \$1.1 million for a shared oval with the City of Wanneroo.

The State Budget also includes investment in important education support infrastructure, for students with a disability:

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| ■ \$3 million for South Bunbury Education Support Centre                             | ■ \$2 million for the West Coast Education Support Centre |
| ■ \$3 million to construct an education support centre at Burns Beach Primary School | ■ \$250,000 for Castlereagh School                        |

In addition:

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| ■ Planning is underway for the \$18.7 million rebuild of Hillarys Primary School, with construction to be completed for 2024;              | ■ Construction is progressing for the \$50 million new and refurbished accommodation at John Forrest Secondary College; and   |
| ■ \$16.6 million redevelopment has commenced at Mount Lockyer Primary School to provide the school with new and refurbished accommodation; | ■ \$18.5 million refurbishment works have commenced at Hedland Senior High School and construction of the new sports hall and student accommodation will start shortly. |
| ■ Planning has commenced for the \$20.9 million upgrades at Derby District High School;  |   |

A \$26.1 million minor capital works and maintenance program will also take place at a wide range of schools throughout Western Australia, building on our \$200 million Maintenance Blitz.

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## Support for student well-being

Support for students' mental health and well-being will be strengthened with the delivery of the McGowan Government's \$104 million election commitment to provide more staff and resources in schools.

This includes:

- \$42.2 million for an additional 100 FTE school psychologists in Western Australian schools over the next four years to provide support for students and promote positive mental health with a proportionate funding increase for non-government schools to purchase psychology services;
- \$38.5 million to expand the successful Alternative Learning Settings program across WA, to provide separate learning environments for students who have committed violent acts where they are taught self-regulation skills to cease these behaviours; and
- \$21.8 million to provide WA public schools the opportunity to purchase chaplaincy services, if they wish, to support the social and emotional well-being of students and staff.

This support will help students develop mental health knowledge, skills and competencies and connect students who have more acute needs with the specialist and clinical services they may need.

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## Supporting students in STEM

The McGowan Labor Government will continue its strong focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in public schools across WA, and deliver on its election commitment to boost science in schools.

It is essential that students are provided with the highest quality facilities and resources in STEM so they are prepared for the jobs of the future.

### School STEM snapshot

- \$87.6 million for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics facilities upgrades.
  - \$18.2 million primary school science program which benefits more than 400 WA public schools with:
    - More than 130 public schools to have classrooms upgraded into science laboratories and receive science resource grants for equipment and resources to help deliver quality STEM education; and
    - \$10.3 million to provide an additional 282 primary schools with science resource grants to enable them to enhance their science education equipment and resources.
  - Schools can use the resource grants to purchase equipment such as 3D models, digital microscopes, 3D printers, virtual reality headsets, robotics kits and renewable energy kits.
  - This program builds on the previous McGowan Government election commitment which delivered 200 science laboratories and resource grants to public schools around the State.
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## Powering our schools

We want students in Western Australia to embrace science and new technologies.

The McGowan Labor Government is investing in clean energy technologies that give our schools a better understanding to manage energy use, as well as improve the stability and reliability of the electricity grid.

The 2021-22 State Budget delivers on the McGowan Government election commitment to establish a \$40 million Schools Clean Energy Technology Fund to help reduce energy costs in public schools and lower carbon emissions.

### Transforming schools into Virtual Power Plants

Turning schools into Virtual Power Plants gives students a practical look at how energy is generated in a sustainable way.

The McGowan Government is investing \$4.8 million from the fund to Synergy for the continuation of the pilot of Virtual Power Plant (VPP) battery systems at schools to another six schools.

Three Kalgoorlie-Boulder schools and three Geraldton schools will be selected by Synergy to take part in the expanded VPP project following completion of an analysis and assessment process later this year.

Additional funding brings the total investment in the Schools VPP pilot project to \$8.8 million, with 16 schools set to be transformed into smart, green power plants.

## **Solar Schools Program**

The State Budget includes an additional \$4.6 million to fund the extension of the Solar Schools Program to increase schools' access to solar panels in the Pilbara and the Kimberley, delivering on an election commitment.

The Solar Schools project will also be expanded in the North West region ensuring rooftop solar systems for 18 schools in the Kimberley and 10 schools in the Pilbara.

This program of work builds on the McGowan Labor Government's Solar Schools Program which is delivering solar panels for 30 regional public schools throughout WA and has created 12 new full-time jobs during the 18-month construction period.

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## **Investing in TAFE and training**

The McGowan Labor Government came to office with a clear commitment to make training affordable and accessible for Western Australians.

We set about restoring and revitalising a neglected TAFE sector and since 2017 we have slashed fees, introduced free courses and invested in the biggest TAFE infrastructure program in WA history.

This has delivered strong results, with enrolments increasing significantly, putting more Western Australians on the pathway to quality local jobs.

## **Training at a glance**

The 2021-22 State Budget ensures continued support for the training and skilling of Western Australians, providing access to quality jobs.

The McGowan Government's investment will deliver on election commitments to ensure TAFE and training continues to be more affordable and accessible, enabling local people to find work in local jobs throughout the State.

\$121.4 million in training initiatives in the 2021-22 State Budget include:

- \$29.8 million boost to provide 8,000 extra VET places for Year 11 and 12 students in schools;
- \$19.2 million VET career taster program for year 9 students;
- \$32.4 million to get 300 new building and construction apprentices and trainees working on State Government projects;
- \$25 million for state-of-the-art TAFE equipment;
- \$9.9 million to support TAFE college lecturer industry placements; and
- \$5.2 million to get 200 additional Western Australian apprentices above the age of 21 into quality training.

## **Training young Western Australians**

Training places for school students will be increased by 8,000 to engage students in quality, industry relevant training, with options to attain their Western Australian Certificate of Education, while enhancing their post-school employment, education and training. This is on top of an additional 1,350 VET places introduced in 2021.

A \$19.2 million VET Career Taster Program will also be rolled out to Year 9 students from 2022. The State Government is already engaging with industry, schools and other key stakeholders to inform the program's development, with regional consultation about to commence.

## **Boosting apprentices and training opportunities**

The McGowan Government is investing \$32.4 million to create 300 new jobs for apprentices and trainees with Group Training Schemes.

The funding will provide small and medium enterprises with access to 150 additional and highly-subsidised apprentices and trainees in 2022 and again in 2023 to work on State Government projects.

Given the strength of the Western Australian economy and the huge amount of jobs being created these initiatives are critical to ensuring industry has access to a skilled local workforce.

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## Investing in TAFE infrastructure and contemporary training

TAFE colleges will receive \$25 million of modern equipment as part of a four-year program to upgrade and modernise TAFE equipment and facilities to contemporary industry standards - helping students, apprentices and trainees become more job-ready.

A \$9.9 million investment over four years will support TAFE college lecturers to undertake industry placements to keep them at the forefront of innovation and quality education, and enable them to upskill and maintain industry standards, practices, qualifications and skills.

These initiatives build on the McGowan Government's considerable work over the past four years to restore and revitalise TAFE and training - with this work contributing to significant enrolment increases and more opportunities for local people to secure local jobs.

Initiatives already underway include:

- \$184.3 million in capital works projects across Western Australia;
- \$25 million for free TAFE short courses to upskill thousands of Western Australians;
- \$345.9 million for the Lower Fees, Local Skills program and to freeze all other fees at current rates until the end of the 2025 training year; and
- \$11.9 million for the Apprenticeship and Traineeship Re-engagement Incentive.

The McGowan Government has slashed the fees for 180 high priority TAFE courses under the Lower Fees, Local Skills initiative, including for courses in tourism and hospitality, agriculture, defence, construction, engineering, information technology and community services.

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## Attracting a skilled workforce

The McGowan Labor Government is taking swift action to progress ideas identified in partnership with Western Australian industry following its inaugural 2021 Skills Summit.

The economy is strong and WA has defied the economic turmoil seen throughout much of the world.

With low unemployment and international border restrictions, we are experiencing growing demand for skilled workers to fill local jobs and support our businesses.

The concepts from the Skills Summit will shape further planning, strategy and decisions to assist WA's workforce needs.

Following detailed consultation with industry, the State Government's multibillion dollar infrastructure program has been reviewed to smooth the pipeline of work to ease workforce pressures across the economy.

Priority initiatives to attract and retain skilled workers in Western Australia as part of its continuing work with industry and training providers to address the State's skilled worker needs being undertaken, include:

- Bringing forward 100 more places to the highly successful Jobs and Skills WA Adult Apprentice Employer Incentive, supporting 200 additional mature age apprentices into quality training. The program reached its 100-place cap in just over a two-week period so the fast-tracking of additional spaces enabled additional employers to immediately access the adult apprentice financial incentive - up to \$26,800.
- An additional 5,000 onshore places requested under the State Nominated Migration Program. The State Government is requesting more places from the Commonwealth Government following the addition of 134 occupations to the program, which has prompted thousands of expressions of interest from skilled onshore migrants to secure work in WA.
- Implement initiatives to help disadvantaged learner drivers obtain a driver's licence - a significant barrier to employment for many. Already the McGowan Government has introduced a \$4.9 million pilot program to trial initiatives to overcome barriers young people in regional WA face in getting a driver's licence. The Commonwealth Government has also announced a program to assist job seekers to gain a driver's licence which is estimated to assist up to 330,000 Australians.
- A new partnership with the Wirrpanda Foundation will provide Aboriginal jobseekers aged 15-24 with targeted assistance to address specific barriers to employment.
- A targeted advertising campaign to attract interstate and New Zealand workers and increase participation of under-represented groups in WA.
- Holding a series of targeted regional skills summits across WA in recognition of the unique skills challenges faced in the regions.