

Department of Education and Training

State Budget 2011–12

Agency Budget Highlights

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CAMERON DICK MP
Minister for Education
and Industrial Relations

Message from the Minister for Education and Industrial Relations

All Queensland students deserve the very best education.

To further enhance the educational opportunities for all Queensland students, the Government is committed to implementing the suite of *Flying Start* initiatives.

These reforms are at the core of the State Budget with a commitment to progressively implement the *Flying Start* initiatives through an investment of \$328.2 million to assist state schools to prepare facilities for the move of Year 7 to secondary and \$293.8 million in recurrent funding, including \$81.3 million of capital assistance to the non-state school sector.

The *Flying Start* initiatives will further help prepare children for school, get them ready for secondary school and improve the performance of all schools.

The most significant reform will be introducing Year 7 as the first year of secondary schooling from 2015. This will ensure Queensland students are in the most appropriate setting to take full advantage of the Australian Curriculum.

To support this move, state schools will commence preparations from 2012 including professional development for teachers and planning school facilities and additional teacher housing. Support will also be made available to the non-state school sector in the lead up to 2015.

To improve the performance of Queensland schools, in 2012 the Government will move to create an independent education standards authority to develop shared high standards across the education sector.

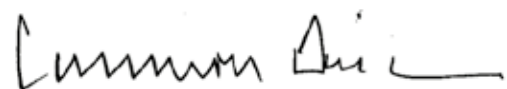
This authority will bring together and expand the functions of the Queensland Studies Authority and the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board.

This significant investment in the future of Queensland education is part of the \$7.4 billion funding available this year to support schools and early childhood education and care.

Infrastructure will also be boosted through an investment of \$487 million as well as a record \$134.8 million allocated for school maintenance that includes a special injection of \$50 million to target maintenance priorities.

We are already making great strides in ensuring all Queensland children are prepared for school as we continue our commitment to provide an extra 240 kindergarten services by 2014. As part of the *Flying Start* initiatives, the role of parents and carers in developing the early literacy skills of their children will be further promoted and supported.

Investment in these initiatives through the 2011-12 State Budget will maximise opportunities for Queensland students and ensure our state continues to enhance our world-class education system.



CAMERON DICK MP
Minister for Education and
Industrial Relations



STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP
Minister for Employment,
Skills and Mining

Message from the Minister for Employment, Skills and Mining

The Queensland Government is committed to creating a flexible and responsive skills system that delivers world-class vocational education and training to help people access job opportunities and to help support our State's economic growth.

Following this year's floods and Tropical Cyclone Yasi, the skills sector was quick to respond with a package of initiatives to help affected communities get back on their feet. The Queensland Natural Disasters Jobs and Skills Package is a partnership between our Government and the Australian Government to deliver training and employment opportunities to assist with the rebuilding effort, keep Queenslanders working and provide training in priority areas.

In 2011-12 the Government will continue to deliver on its strong commitment to skills development for key industry sectors like construction, manufacturing and resources by committing \$1.4 billion to the vocational education and training sector. As part of this commitment, eligible Queenslanders will also be able to access priority training through the Australian Government's \$133 million Productivity Places Program.

To support the delivery of quality training, we are also investing an additional \$91.5 million in TAFE trade training facilities and improvements to other TAFE campus infrastructure to ensure our facilities are responsive and cutting edge.

Importantly, Queensland is leading the nation with our industry-led authority, Skills Queensland, which has been specifically established to respond to the skills challenge by directing Government and industry investment towards priority training and workforce development needs.

The Government recognises the value and contribution of vocational education and training providers to the Queensland economy and will continue to work in partnership with these sectors to maximise opportunities for all Queenslanders.

The 2011-12 budget supports the Queensland Government's commitment to targeted skills development by ensuring Queenslanders are well placed to take full advantage of the employment and career opportunities on offer right across the State.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stirling Hinchliffe'.

STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP
Minister for Employment, Skills and Mining

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In this State Budget, the Queensland Government will deliver major reforms in education to give all Queenslanders a flying start to life.

This will be backed by a continuing focus on quality education from early childhood and targeted skills development to support economic growth.

2011–12 Highlights

In 2011-12 the Department of Education and Training will invest more than \$8.7 billion in recurrent funding which includes over \$7.1 billion for schooling, \$1.4 billion for the vocational education and training sector and \$237 million for early childhood education.

In addition more than \$578 million will be invested in infrastructure to build and improve kindergartens, schools and vocational education and training facilities.

Flying Start education reforms

The *Flying Start* suite of initiatives will address three key education priorities – getting ready for school, getting ready for secondary school and boosting performance for all schools.

Getting ready for school

In 2011-12 the Government will continue to promote the role of parents and carers in developing early literacy through training and resources. This includes recruiting and training up to 3,000 volunteers to become Queensland Ready Readers to assist young readers in classrooms across the State to build their confidence in, and enjoyment of, reading.

Getting ready for secondary school

Year 7 will be introduced as the first year of secondary school from 2015 to enhance the educational opportunities for Queensland students under the Australian Curriculum. Access to specialist teachers and facilities will position Year 7 students to maximise their academic potential and support their developmental needs. To implement the transition, the Government will:

- commence preparations in state schools from 2012 to strengthen student transitions to secondary schooling
- support teachers through professional development and scholarships
- initiate the program to build, refurbish and reconfigure state school classrooms and flexible learning areas to address local needs
- support the non-government school sector in the lead up to 2015.

Boosting performance for all schools

The Government will create a single independent education standards authority in Queensland which will bring together and expand the functions of the Queensland Studies Authority and the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board to develop shared high standards for all Queensland schools.



School education

In 2011-12 the department will invest \$7.154 billion to deliver education in Queensland state schools and support school education in non-state schools to prepare young people for successful transitions to further education, training and work.

Literacy, numeracy and science

- The department will complete the roll-out of its \$72.3 million three-year Literacy and Numeracy Action Plan. Funding of \$26.2 million in 2011-12 will provide:
 - between 10 and 20 hours of intensive teaching for Years 3 and 5 students not meeting national minimum standards in literacy and numeracy
 - 91 full time equivalent (FTE) literacy and numeracy coaches in 175 schools as part of the Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership
 - the continuation of Summer Schools to assist Years 5 to 7 students who require additional literacy and numeracy support
 - ongoing professional development for teachers to increase their skills and knowledge.
- Funding of \$6.3 million over three years to improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in identified state schools under the Australian Government's Closing the Gap initiative.
- Funding of \$18.6 million is provided in 2011-12 to complete the \$43.5 million three-year Science Spark program. This will include:
 - employment of 15 Regional Science Managers to provide professional development in primary schools to support the teaching of science
 - 100 Primary Science Facilitators to improve teaching of science in Years 4 to 7
 - the expansion of the number of Earth Smart Science schools to 1000.

Teaching and learning

- The Australian Curriculum will be progressively implemented commencing with English, mathematics and science from 2012 which will include the development of curriculum plans and resources and professional development for teachers across the State.
- Up to 300 additional full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers and teacher aides will be provided to meet enrolment growth and support students with special needs in Queensland state schools.



- An investment of \$24.5 million in 2011-12 for an additional 5,000 teacher aide hours per week (totalling an additional 15,000 hours since 2008-09) to complete the Government's \$43 million three-year commitment to allocate an additional 15,000 hours of teacher aide time each week to support primary students from Prep to Year 7.
- An investment of \$3 million in 2011-12 to complete the \$12 million commitment to finalise the roll-out of the Queensland Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Framework.
- Funding of \$57.5 million as part of the Australian Government's contribution to state schools in 2011-12 involved in the Low Socio-economic Status School Communities National Partnership to continue implementation of targeted strategies to improve student learning outcomes.
- The Working Together Against Bullying resources and strategies will be implemented in collaboration with all education sectors including seminars by the state's anti-bullying expert and the roll-out of the eSmart Schools Cybersafety Framework in state schools.
- An investment of \$8.1 million as part of the Australian Government's contribution in 2011-12 to implement a range of targeted strategies aimed at improving student attainment and transitions.
- Reforms to teacher pre-service preparation arising from the Review of Teacher Education and School Induction will be implemented.
- Expand the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Gardens program to a further 25 Queensland primary schools, through an investment of \$1.8 million, doubling the number of schools running the program in Queensland.

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Indigenous education support

- Continue to support the Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy to improve learning outcomes for Indigenous students and support the identity of children in the Cape York region.
- Continue to implement the Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in Schools initiative to strengthen partnerships between schools and local Indigenous communities, support inclusive education and improve the educational outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.
- Provide case management support to assist all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 12 students, in all sectors, to successfully transition from schooling to further education, training and/or meaningful employment.

School infrastructure and resources

- Investment in education infrastructure during 2011-12 will include:
 - \$132.8 million to construct a new school at Mango Hill, continue the relocation of Mer Campus of Tagai State College, undertake staged work at four schools, and buy land and provide additional classrooms in growth areas throughout the State
 - \$134.8 million for school maintenance including a special allocation of \$50 million for maintenance priorities
 - \$61.9 million to replace and enhance facilities at existing schools including planning to mitigate against future natural disasters at schools heavily impacted across Queensland
 - \$17.9 million to acquire new employee housing and to refurbish and maintain existing housing assets.

- The department will continue the Schools Public Private Partnership project to build, operate and maintain a total of seven new state schools in high growth areas within South-East Queensland including:
 - stage one of a new primary school at Bundilla on the Sunshine Coast and a new high school at Murrumba Downs opening in 2012
 - stage two of Bayview State School at Thornlands South and Peregian Springs State School on the Sunshine Coast opening in 2012.
- Continue delivery of state school projects under the Science and Language Centres and Primary Schools for the 21st Century components of the Australian Government's Building the Education Revolution initiative.
- Allocation of \$40.1 million of Australian Government funding to upgrade or build new training facilities for schools under the Trade Training Centres in Schools program in Queensland.
- An investment of over \$100 million in the Smart Classrooms initiatives to improve student, teacher and parent access to digital learning materials, while \$20 million under the Computers for Teachers program will continue the provision of a dedicated classroom computer, access to a digital learning environment and tools and associated professional development to every permanent state school and TAFE institute teacher working two days or more a week.
- Under the Australian Government's Digital Education Revolution, provide over 64,000 computers for state school students in Years 9 to 12.

Early childhood education

The department will invest over \$237 million in 2011-12 to support high quality, integrated early childhood services for all Queensland children. Highlights include:

- an investment of \$91 million to support delivery of kindergarten programs in new and existing kindergarten services, including kindergarten programs in long day care services
- the quality of Queensland early childhood education and care services will continue to be improved through the implementation of the National Quality Framework from 1 January 2012 for approximately 2,700 Queensland services
- an investment of \$4 million in scholarship schemes over four years to support eligible early childhood education and care workers upgrade their qualifications for registration as a teacher in Queensland
- access to early childhood development services will be improved for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in Cairns, Doomadgee, Ipswich, Logan, Mackay, Mareeba, Mornington Island, Mount Isa, Palm Island and Rockhampton through a joint initiative with the Australian Government
- delivery of integrated quality early childhood services and their satellite services for Queensland families in Early Years Centres in Browns Plains, Caboolture, Cairns and North Gold Coast.

Early childhood infrastructure

- Funding of \$75 million in 2011-12 to establish kindergarten services on state school sites as part of a \$321 million commitment to provide up to 240 extra kindergarten services by 2014.
- Fast track 40 kindergarten services originally scheduled for 2013 and 2014, to construct 85 new services by the end of 2012.
- The capacity of integrated early childhood services for families with children from birth to eight years of age will be extended through investment of \$3.1 million in Early Years Centres facilities and their satellite services in Cairns, Acacia Ridge, Beaudesert and Woodford as part of a \$32 million commitment to establish four Early Years Centres.
- In partnership with the Australian Government, an investment of \$24.3 million to establish children and family centres in Doomadgee, Mareeba and Mornington Island as part of \$75 million to establish 10 centres by 2012 for Indigenous children from birth to eight years. Construction of early learning and care centres in Cairns and Gladstone will also be finalised.
- Finalise a commitment to expand child care services in the Bowen Basin mining communities of Dysart, Moura, Blackwater and Middlemount.
- Investment of \$5.8 million over four years to provide a solar panel system to all new kindergartens and eligible existing kindergartens by 2014.



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Skills

In 2011-12, the department will commit \$1.4 billion to the vocational education and training sector to provide Queenslanders with the skills needed for jobs in traditional and emerging industries and meet the Government's target of three out of four Queenslanders holding a trade, training or tertiary qualification by 2020. Highlights include:

- Australian Government funding of \$133.7 million under the National Partnership Agreement on Productivity Places Program to support eligible Queenslanders to undertake training in priority areas
- the department will work with the industry-led skills commission, Skills Queensland, to drive skills investment and reform and strengthen partnerships with industry to align funding programs with skills and jobs priorities
- innovative teaching, learning and assessment skills of vocational education and training teachers will be developed across the sector
- statewide training and career information services, including recognition of prior learning and career pathways, will continue to be delivered through Skilling Solutions Queensland and the Apprenticeships Info line
- an investment of \$9 million towards the Queensland Government's Green Army initiative for training projects that have significant environmental and community benefit.

Skills infrastructure

- Investment in skills infrastructure during 2011-12 includes:
 - \$34.9 million to continue the development of the SkillsTech Australia major trade and technical skills campus at Acacia Ridge
 - \$17.1 million to continue the development of a major trade and technical skills campus at Mackay

- \$8.9 million to continue the redevelopment of the Cairns campus of the Tropical North Queensland Institute of TAFE
- \$8.7 million to continue the redevelopment of the Nambour Campus of the Sunshine Coast Institute of TAFE
- \$4.6 million to redevelop the Bundamba Campus of The Bremer Institute of TAFE
- \$5 million to commence redevelopment of the Pimlico Campus of the Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE
- \$1.4 million to continue the redevelopment of the Mount Gravatt Campus of the Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE.



Queensland
Government

State Budget 2011–12

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