

Highlights

Promoting education and early childhood

The Queensland Government is committed to investing in the basics of literacy, numeracy, science, teachers and teacher aides.



Following on from the successful introduction of Queensland's non-compulsory Preparatory Year, in 2008-09 the Department of Education and Training commenced reform of the State's early childhood education in line with national priorities.

Supporting the Government's *Towards Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland* agenda, the focus for 2009-10 will be on the essentials of literacy, numeracy and science. Funding of \$301 million will continue the \$1 billion Tomorrow's Schools Program.

In 2009-10, the Government will continue investing in education and early childhood with:

- \$20.3 million for:
 - up to 80 literacy and numeracy coaches
 - the establishment of summer schools for 9,000 Year 5 and Year 7 students
 - intensive teaching of Year 3 and Year 5 students not meeting national literacy and numeracy standards.
- more than \$11 million for science education among students in Years 4 to 7
- construction of seven new schools in high growth areas in Thornlands South, Peregian Springs, Bellbird Park and Collingwood Park in Ipswich, East Coomera and Bundilla on the Sunshine Coast. Peregian Springs and Thornlands South will be completed for the start of the 2010 school year. The remaining schools, including a new highschool to be built at Murrumba Downs, will open in 2011 and 2012
- \$15.4 million for kindergarten infrastructure on State school sites as part of the Government's commitment to invest more than \$300 million to establish 240 new or extra kindergarten services by 2014

- provision of an additional 350 teachers and teacher aides to meet enrolment growth
- \$7.5 million to provide an additional \$10,000 a year in grant funding for each school, with an additional \$3,000 per school for schools in disadvantaged areas
- 5,000 teacher aide hours per week as part of the Government's \$43 million, three-year commitment to allocate additional teacher aide time for students from Prep to Year 7.

Capital outlays of \$16.7 million will complete the rollout of early learning facilities across 35 Indigenous communities.

Partnership with the Australian Government

The Queensland Government will partner with the Australian Government to deliver:

- \$1.168 billion in infrastructure in schools across the State as part of the Australian Government's Building the Education Revolution initiative
- the rollout of the Australian Government's investment of up to \$61.1 million in trade training centres in schools. The Queensland and Australian Governments are

working closely to establish trade training centres to help increase the proportion of students achieving Year 12 or equivalent qualifications and skills in traditional trades and emerging industries

- National Partnership Agreements for Literacy and Numeracy, Low Socio-Economic Status School Communities and Improving Teacher Quality programs