

## GPV/KCV SUPPORTS INITIATIVES IN THE 2026-27 STATE BUDGET WHICH DELIVER BENEFITS TO FAMILIES

**A number of budget initiatives are directed towards the wellbeing of children across Victoria and are in line with priorities identified by GPV/KCV**

### THE VICTORIAN BUDGET 2026-27 DELIVERS \$8.5 MILLION TO STRENGTHEN FOOD SECURITY

- Funding will deliver another round of the Community Food Security Program for community and volunteer organisations. It will also boost support for the Coordination Fund for large-scale food relief organisations.
- This is in addition to the \$2.7 million immediate relief announced in April to boost support for food relief. The Liberals have a \$13 billion budget black hole and no plan for families doing it tough.

Labor has new solutions for Victorian families who need them.

### The Budget invests \$761.8 million for new and growing schools across Victoria

This includes:

- Wollahra Secondary College (interim name) in Wyndham – opening in 2028 for 678 students, including 128 specialist inclusion places
- Thompsons East Primary School (interim name) in Casey – opening in 2028 for 964 students, including 64 specialist inclusion places
- Rockbank Toolern Road Primary School (interim name) in Melton – opening in 2028 for 900 students
- A new campus at South Melbourne Primary School – opening in 2029 for 250 students
- Additional stages at three recently opened schools: Wulerrp Secondary College in Casey, Yubup Primary School in Hume and Homestead Senior Secondary College in Wyndham

The Budget will support planning, design and early works of:

- A new secondary school in Arden, opening by 2030
- A new campus for Preston High School, opening by 2030
- Pattersons Road Secondary College (interim name) in Casey, opening in 2029

This Budget invests \$104 million to acquire land for future schools in high-growth areas in:

- Cardinia
- Greater Geelong
- Hume
- Melbourne
- Mitchell
- Wyndham

The investment also includes \$216.7 million for high-quality modular classrooms and buildings. This creates 8,650 more school places in 2027, giving growing schools additional capacity to meet demand.

## Upgrades for existing schools

Thirty-one government schools will receive upgrades through a \$294.8 million investment:

- Ararat Primary School
- Bacchus Marsh College
- Boroondara Park Primary School
- Brighton Beach Primary School
- Cheltenham East Primary School
- Daylesford Primary School
- Eaglehawk Primary School
- Edithvale Primary School
- Essendon North Primary School
- Hastings Primary School
- Keilor Heights Primary School
- Keysborough Gardens Primary School
- Kismet Park Primary School
- Maribyrnong College
- Maryborough Education Centre
- Melton Primary School
- Merri-bek Primary School
- Moomba Park Primary School
- Mornington Park Primary School
- Mount Waverley North Primary School
- Pakenham Consolidated School
- Sherbrooke Community School
- Spensley Street Primary School
- St Kilda Primary School
- Stawell Primary School
- Surfside Primary School
- Vermont Primary School
- Wales Street Primary School
- Warragul North Primary School
- Warranwood Primary School
- Yarrawonga College P-12

## Targeted works where they're needed most

The Budget invests \$25.4 million for targeted works at 24 government schools (plus an open grant round) at:

- Boronia K-12 College
- Briagolong Primary School
- Bundarra Primary School
- Cambridge Primary School
- Cardross Primary School
- Carwatha College P-12
- Diamond Creek East Primary School
- Drysdale Primary School
- Dunkeld Consolidated School
- Essendon Keilor College
- Fountain Gate Primary School
- Heathmont East Primary School
- Hesketh Primary School
- Manor Lakes P-12 College
- Mansfield Primary School
- Melbourne High School
- Miners Rest Primary School
- Monbulk College
- Sherbourne Primary School
- Southern Cross Primary School
- Stratford Primary School
- Toolangi Primary School
- Wheelers Hill Secondary College
- Wonga Park Primary School

## Planning for school upgrades

This Budget invests \$1 million to fund planning for future capital upgrades at:

- Bendigo Senior Secondary College
- Eltham East Primary School
- Marlborough Primary School
- Glenroy College

## Keeping schools safe and accessible

The Budget invests in essential maintenance and compliance programs – including rapid support for schools damaged by incidents or extreme weather.

This includes \$28.8 million to improve access for students with disability and additional needs.

For more information, visit [schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au](http://schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au)

## SOLUTIONS TO HELP KIDS WAITING FOR HEALTH CARE

- The Budget invests \$50.1 million to deliver 4,000 additional planned surgeries for kids. Health services will be prioritised for the additional activity based on need – these include Royal Children’s Hospital, Western Health, Monash Health, Barwon Health and Bendigo Health. To ensure children aren’t missing school, we’ll focus surge capacity on school holidays.
- The Budget invests almost \$16 million to deliver 45,000 extra specialist appointments for kids and young people. This investment will fund medical, allied health, nurse-led and multi-disciplinary clinics. It means more children access the right care, in the right place, at the right time, by the right provider.
- The Budget invests \$33.3 million to expand VicKey and increase the number of health services using the platform. VicKey digitises a vast amount of patient and hospital information to help hospitals manage waitlists more efficiently. At one Victorian health service, VicKey helped reduce the collective time patients are waiting for key specialist appointments by 38 per cent.
- The Budget invests \$8.0 million in a new Victorian first pilot – Specialist Advice Now – to reduce wait times. This service enables GPs and patients to get timely specialist advice without the need for a referral.
- The Budget invests \$27 million so more Victorians can get endoscopies to help stem the rise of bowel cancer in young Victorians and early screening can be lifesaving.

## INVESTMENTS IN KINDERGARTEN

### The Victorian Budget 2026/27 invests almost \$500 million in kindergarten services

The budget to deliver up to:

- 22 kindergartens at school sites
- the next five Early Learning Victoria (ELV) centres
- grants for 27 new and expanded kinders

More Kinders on School Sites and government-owned ELV centres will be delivered where they’re needed most. The Budget also invests \$9.8 million to continue the Building Blocks Improvement and Inclusion Grant program. This will unlock more upgrades across Victoria to make centres safer and more inclusive.

Free Kinder is one of Victoria’s most significant cost-of-living initiatives.

New data reveals that 570,000 children have benefited from Free Kinder since 2023.

To date, the program has delivered up to \$5,200 in savings per child for Victorian families.

## More bilingual kinder

The Budget invests \$3.6 million in bilingual kinders – through the nation-leading Early Childhood Language Program. Around 7,000 children already benefit from learning languages other than English at kindergarten.

This program will support 197 kindergartens to teach 21 languages. Languages include Arabic, Auslan, Cantonese, Chinese, French, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Karen, Punjabi, Spanish, and Vietnamese – plus six Victorian Aboriginal languages.

As part of the program, kindergarten teachers and language teachers work together to incorporate language into play, art, music, singing, dancing and stories.