



What is the ALP promising for education?

Additional funding for government schools

Labor has confirmed it plans to provide \$14 billion over 10 years in funding for government schools (additional to the Coalition announcements). This would raise Commonwealth funding for government schools to 22.2% of the school funding target for each state and territory.

Preschool funding three-year pledge

Labor has promised that in government it would commit \$1.75 billion over the forward estimates to continue universal access to preschool education for four year olds and extend access to three year olds.

Establish a national principals' academy

Labor will set up a new National Principals' Academy to give Australian principals advanced leadership training and support. Training offered by the academy will focus on advanced leadership, teaching and learning.

Additional funding for disability

A Shorten Labor Government will invest an extra \$300 million over three years to ensure students with disability get the support they need at school.

Bursaries for top achievers to teach

Labor has pledged to introduce up to 1000 tax-free bursaries per year of \$10,000 per annum to be paid to top achievers from school or elsewhere for the duration of a teaching degree, up to a maximum of four years. This will be available for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching qualifications. This policy will cost around \$45 million over five years.

Pursuing a national evidence institute

Labor has proposed a \$280 million model for an independent national evidence institute to inform teacher practice, system improvement and policy development.

Establishment of an evidence institute is a target under the National School Reform Agreement. The Education Council is considering operating model, type of entity and funding options for consideration in mid-late 2019.

Budget reply 2019-20

In the budget reply, Leader of the Opposition, Bill Shorten, outlined Labor's education priorities:



University and VET education

Uncapping university places, ‘opening the doors of higher education to an additional 200,000 Australians.’

Doubling the Rebuilding TAFE fund - up to \$200 million to renovate campuses in regional and outer-suburban Australia.

Upfront fees paid for 100,000 TAFE places in high-priority courses including 20,000 allocated to aged care workers and paid carers for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

‘Nine out of ten new jobs created in the next four years will require either a university degree or a TAFE qualification.’

Only a Labor Government will be prepared to properly fund both.’

Committed to 150,000 apprenticeships, additional support for businesses and an Apprentice Advocate.

For early learning and child care

Universal access to pre-school or kinder for every three year old and every four year old in Australia - 15 hours a week, 40 weeks a year.

‘Two years of pre-school is global best practice – and it’s only just good enough for our kids. Our vision for education and training is all about putting Australia on the high road to the future.’

In his speech he said:

‘...you can measure a nation’s values by how much it values education. I want every child in Australia to get the one-on-one attention that they need to thrive.’

I want Aboriginal kids to get genuine equal opportunity, children with disability or learning difficulties getting the support they need.

I want every child participating in sport, trying drama, learning music, going on camps, getting access to new technology. And not as optional extras, to which parents pay increasing levies, not as luxuries that rely on the teachers raising the money themselves.

I want it guaranteed. Guaranteed because every school in Australia should offer every child the same world of opportunity.’

Source:

www.billshorten.com.au/2019_budget_in_reply_address_canberra_thursday_4_april_2019