



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW TO IMPLEMENT GONSKI SCHOOL FUNDING REFORMS

NSW will implement the Gonski national education reforms, securing \$5 billion in additional funding for the State's schools, NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli announced today.

Mr O'Farrell said the NSW Government had determined the reforms were in the best interest of NSW students, parents and teachers, and had identified the \$1.7 billion in savings needed to fund the state government's share of the reforms.

"Gonski provides more resources and fairer distribution and aims to achieve higher standards and a better education for every NSW child," Mr O'Farrell said.

"This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for NSW schools.

"The NSW Government's announced education reforms delivering more local-decision making by principals and school communities, focusing on quality teaching, and improving literacy and numeracy standards are consistent with the direction of the Gonski Report.

"Today's announcement supports these reforms with significant additional levels of funding - including a legislated guarantee of Commonwealth funding which is to be in place by 1 July 2013."

The NSW Government has prioritised school education and made some tough decisions to find the \$1.7 billion to fund Gonski.

Cabinet yesterday agreed to fund NSW's share through temporarily deferring the abolition of Inter-Governmental Agreement taxes, introducing an efficiency dividend to be put in place from July 2015, and further savings in the Budget, some of which will flow from the Government's VET reforms, including the level of fees and subsidies which are currently being considered by IPART.

Mr Piccoli said under these reforms we have secured additional resources for classrooms across NSW, with the majority going to schools in most need.

"Funding will deepen and accelerate reforms currently underway in NSW schools including the key principle of allocating resources directly to schools," Mr Piccoli said.

"I am proud of this historic reform which builds on our commitment to deliver a world-class education system in NSW," he said.