

Creating opportunities for the next generation of Tasmanians

Gonski reforms

The Gonski education reforms aim to deliver equitable, high quality education to students from all backgrounds, particularly in disadvantaged communities.

Additional funding of \$83 million over four years has been provided in the 2013-14 Budget to improve educational outcomes and provide needs-based funding to Tasmanian schools. These funds are a contribution to these important national reforms.

The funding will ensure that students who are falling behind have the support and resources they need to succeed.

It will help to provide:

- high quality teaching and learning;
- improved targeting of resources to where they are needed most; and
- improved transparency and accountability for the education outcomes of students.

The Tasmanian Government's funding will be provided regardless of whether or not agreement is reached with the Commonwealth over the Gonski reforms.

Investing in schools

Over the next four years the Government will allocate \$38 million for the major upgrade of schools across the State, including:

- Glenorchy Primary School
- Lauderdale Primary School
- South Hobart Primary School
- Parklands High School
- Smithton High School
- Brooks High School
- Kings Meadows High School
- New Town High School
- Montrose Bay High School
- Devonport High School.

In 2013-14, the Government will also continue to build new Trade Training Centres in schools across the State as part of the national partnership with the Commonwealth. Funding of \$4.1 million will allow the completion of construction for centres in Huonville, St Helens and the southern project involving Sorell and Triabunna.

A further \$2.8 million will be available for new projects that are currently being evaluated, while \$1.8 million has been allocated to continue support for staffing and management.



National Broadband Network

Thanks to the National Broadband Network (NBN), Tasmania is fast becoming one of the most connected places on the planet and is overcoming its relative geographical isolation.

In 2013-14, the Government will continue to help businesses and the community make the transition to a digital economy, and assist with the development of NBN-capable applications, services and technologies, through programs such as:

- Digital Ready, a coaching and workshop-based program to help small businesses enhance their online knowledge, skills and confidence; and
- the Retail Online Innovation Program, designed to help Tasmanian retailers realise the huge opportunities presented by the NBN and the digital economy.

This will guide the State's engagement with the digital economy from 2013 to 2015, coinciding with the completion of the NBN rollout in Tasmania.



Sense-T

In partnership with UTAS and the Australian Government we are supporting the world-leading intelligent sensor network, Sense T. This has helped to secure \$10m through the Australian Research Council for its Pathways for Market project, which will provide 26 new highly skilled positions.

Sense-T will collect real-time data about the conditions under which food is produced, processed, transported, stored and sold. That information will be available to consumers, producers and distributors to verify and improve the quality of food products. Sharing information of this scale and complexity needs powerful information network infrastructure. Sense-T demonstrates the power of the NBN to drive innovation and productivity in our business and community.

Opportunities

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Published May 2013
Printed by Print Applied Technology
ISSN 1833-7406 (Print)
ISSN 1833-7414 (Online)