



Rob Stokes
Minister for Education

MEDIA RELEASE

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GONSKI 2.0 REPORT A POSITIVE WAY FORWARD

Education Minister Rob Stokes today welcomed the release of David Gonski's review of Australian school education and its discussion of how to maximise every student's learning growth.

"I agree with Mr Gonski's view that all Australian school systems need to ensure teaching and learning is tailored to the needs of every student," Mr Stokes said.

"This has been the focus of NSW's unprecedented education reforms, which were enabled by being the first state to sign up to Gonski funding in 2013."

"We are shifting from an industrial model of school education that was fit for purpose last century to new, personalised teaching practices to ensure students are equipped to be productive and engaged 21st century citizens."

Mr Stokes said Mr Gonski's report validated many of the successful teaching and learning reforms already underway in NSW, including:

- the \$50 million School Leadership Package to enable principals to focus on educational leadership,
- teaching quality improvements through additional mentoring for beginning teachers and revised accreditation requirements,
- Local Schools, Local Decisions which gives principals and their school communities control of over 70 per cent of school resources, enabling them to tailor support to the specific needs of students, and
- the \$340 million Literacy and Numeracy strategy, which includes a focus on early intervention to improve student learning outcomes.

These and other reforms being implemented in NSW schools are already producing results with our state in the top three jurisdictions for all test domains across all year levels in NAPLAN.

Mr Stokes said he welcomed Mr Gonski's observation that NAPLAN in its present form is limited by its focus on achievement rather than growth.

“The report observes that the best school systems are moving from standardised testing to a mix of more sophisticated evaluation measures,” Mr Stokes said.

“I look forward to further discussions with stakeholders as we work through the detail and consider the implications of Mr Gonski’s recommendations,” he said

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