

**AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR THE DEFENCE OF
GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS**

Press Release 956

**Victorian government now pays for new
Private schools and maintenance of existing
Schools.**

In the last month the Catholic Education authorities have been lobbying the Andrews Government for public funds to erect new schools as well as maintenance of those they already own.

They have succeeded.

This means that taxpayers are paying for assets which they neither own nor control.

DOGS ask:

Isn't it time private schools which are almost totally funded by the taxpayer became public schools?

The news about the private school lobbying success has been given an early airing in the country news as follows:

Non-govt Vic schools promised \$717m boost

By [AAP Newswire](https://www.countrynews.com.au/national/non-govt-vic-schools-promised-717m-boost/) at <https://www.countrynews.com.au/national/non-govt-vic-schools-promised-717m-boost/>

Oct 25, 2022

Victoria's Catholic and independent school sector is being wooed by Labor with a \$717 million funding package.

Premier Daniel Andrews has promised the cash for low-fee Catholic and independent schools if his government secures a third term next month.

Thirty per cent of Victorian children attend non-government schools across the state.

"Choice is very important," Mr Andrews told reporters at Sunbury's Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School on Tuesday.

The \$717 million package includes \$450 million to build and upgrade Catholic and independent schools across the state.

At least 70 per cent of the funding will be directed to Catholic schools, in line with its share of students.

If re-elected, the Andrews government plans to work with both school sectors to identify projects but an initial list of five new schools and 13 upgraded facilities have been earmarked by the state's Catholic education commission.

Another \$250 million would be spent on 60 new and upgraded kindergartens at adjoining non-government schools, along with \$17 million to expand the state's free school dental van program.

It comes hot on the heels of Labor on Monday committing almost \$1.6 billion to build and upgrade government schools and kindergartens if re-elected on November 26.

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