

Labor Announces Cool Schools policy

NSW Opposition Leader Luke Foley has announced a “Cool Schools” policy under which a Labor government will invest “\$300 million to air condition 600 schools – and create thousands of cooler classrooms.”

The “Cool Schools” policy, which will guarantee air conditioning in all new schools built under Labor, was launched in Penrith on Sunday, 25 March 2018.

Mr Foley said, “For the first time thousands of children will get air conditioning in their classrooms. We will ensure every new school we build has air-conditioning - the day it opens.”

“Schools in regional NSW and Western Sydney will be among the first to benefit,” Mr Foley added.

P&C Federation President Susie Boyd commented, “Whilst P&C Federation welcomes this new initiative, the devil is in the details. We hope Labor will stick to its guns on “Cool Schools” policy and not palm off responsibility when it comes time to deliver.”

Ms Boyd went on to say, “The Labor Party must ensure that their “Cool Schools” policy will be honoured unconditionally as our public schools and students cannot bear any more promises to be abandoned after the Federal Government reneged on Gonski 1.0 that has left our public schools underfunded.”

Shadow Minister for Education Jihad Dib commented, “A world class education system provides exceptional learning conditions. Our students and school communities have a right to expect this level of commitment from their government.”

Ms. Boyd added, “It is encouraging to see that the Shadow Minister for Education believes that our students have the right to expect a world class education system and that the responsibility of providing this rests with the government whilst ensuring that its fully funded along with operational cost ongoing with schools’ budgets.”

“We want the NSW government to keep their political expediencies and education separate and focus more on how every child enrolled in a NSW public school can have access to an equitable and a world-class public education system that enables our young people become effective contributing members of society.”

Sydney, NSW, 26 March 2018

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