

# Media Release

**The Hon Ben Carroll MP**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Education  
Minister for WorkSafe and TAC



Saturday, 15 March 2025

## **MORE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY AND THEIR FAMILIES**

The Allan Labor Government is delivering High Intensity Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) at more specialist schools across the state free of charge — giving hundreds of families across Victoria the extra support they deserve.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll this week visited Croxton Special School to announce that High Intensity OSHC services are now available at five more specialist schools — delivering on the promise the Labor Government made to Victorians at the last election.

The schools include Banmira Specialist School (Shepparton), Bass Coast Specialist School (Wonthaggi), Croxton Special School (Northcote), Croydon Special Developmental School and Eastern Ranges School (Ferntree Gully).

High intensity OSHC was developed to support specialist school students' families who say finding affordable outside school hours or holiday care that gives their kids the level of support they need is one of their biggest challenges.

The initiative began as a pilot at five specialist schools which resulted in significant improvements in educational achievements, improved wellbeing of students and their families, and 92 per cent of parents saying they had, or were planning to, take up extra work or training.

This year's expansion of High Intensity OSHC will be followed by a further five schools set to incorporate these services in 2026, delivering on the Labor Government's promise to build on the pilot program established in 2018.

The Government has invested \$1.6 billion in Disability Inclusion initiatives across the state and support students with additional needs who attend mainstream schools.

### **Quotes attributable to Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll**

*"We know that finding care outside school hours is one of the biggest challenges families face and these new services will allow children with disability get the tailored care they deserve."*

*"This program means children with disability can access tailored care close to home at no cost, so parents can spend less time juggling caring with work or study and more time with their loved ones."*