



Speech By  
**Hon. Grace Grace**


**MEMBER FOR MCCONNELL**

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Record of Proceedings, 14 July 2020

## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **School Infrastructure**

 **Hon. G GRACE** (McConnel—ALP) (Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations) (9.52 am): I proudly join the Premier in announcing that four new schools will be delivered: three schools to be built for day 1, 2022 and one in 2023. New primary schools in North Maclean in Logan and Caloundra South in Caloundra, as well as a new special school at Coomera on the Gold Coast will be delivered on time and on budget in 18 months time. I know that due to our record of delivering 18 new schools over the past few years, including eight opened this year, representing an investment of \$450 million and supporting nearly 1,400 jobs, we will deliver these schools. We are also delivering another five new schools in 2021.

Last week I was delighted to visit the high school site at Baringa in Caloundra and the primary school and special school sites at Palmview and saw firsthand the great progress being made. We have done it before and we will do it again because we know that ensuring every child gets a good education is one of the key building blocks of our society. The two primary schools just announced for 2022 will cater to the strong population growth being experienced in the Caloundra South and the Greater Flagstone priority development areas. The new primary school in Caloundra South will support the existing Baringa State Primary School which the Premier and I proudly opened and is now nearly at capacity and the new secondary school that is currently under construction and will open in 2021. The new primary school in North Maclean will be the first of many new schools that will be built in the Greater Flagstone PDA.

The new special school in Coomera will service the growing population in Coomera and Pimpama and provide special schooling relief to the existing Southport Special School on the Gold Coast and the Beenleigh Special School in Logan which, I might say, have also received substantial upgrades in the past year or so. We have also allocated \$65 million of funding for a new primary school to be built in Brisbane's booming inner-west suburbs to open on day 1 of 2023. We can now begin an extensive community consultation process to find the best location that will benefit the local community.

We are also building stage 2 of the Lee Street State Special School and I look forward to visiting that school with the local member, Minister Ryan, for the official opening of stage 1 in the coming months. As well as providing world-class education infrastructure, the scale of these projects means that there will be significant employment opportunities and around \$346 million worth of work in the pipeline for local tradies just for these projects alone. We are focused on getting people back to work as we unite and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. These projects expect to support more than 870 local jobs. These projects are building on our record investment in building new schools and expanding existing schools in high growth areas to give every child a great start.