




Speech By
Linus Power

MEMBER FOR LOGAN

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ADJOURNMENT

Logan Electorate, Schools

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (6.16 pm): Our thoughts are with Beau and Terry and, of course, their forever little No. 39, Ryley.

I want to tell the House and the people of Logan something exciting. That is, the construction on the new primary school in Park Ridge has begun. The bulldozers are out there and there are already maps and plans up. It is quite exciting because this is a growing area. Anyone who has been down Chambers Flat Road and seen the East Beaumont estates and the other estates towards Logan Reserve would have seen the tremendous growth in the Park Ridge area, and we are a government that backs growth with the services that families need.

Stage 1 of the new school includes an admin; the family link hub, which is a special feature for this school; an early childhood education centre; classrooms; the information and resource centre; amenities; canteen; a multipurpose hall; outdoor multipurpose courts; the sports oval; playgrounds; a car park; and the covered areas. Park Ridge's new primary school will increase the new schooling network and provide relief to the surrounding schools, which are Crestmead State School, Marsden State School, Logan Reserve State School and the existing Park Ridge State School. What is great is that last week I spoke about the opening of the new admin centre at Park Ridge State School. We have also done other construction. We have completed the new South Rock State School, Yarrabilba State School and, of course, new classrooms.

What I want to say to the people of Logan is that there is a real concern. When we are growing this fast and are in desperate need of these new classrooms and new schools, we cannot afford a government that makes cuts. That is what worries me, because we know that in the period between 2011 and 2015 no new schools were built in our growing area of Logan. There were, in fact, no new classrooms built in our growing area of Logan. Now we are seeing that investment. I want to thank the education minister, because she understands what growing areas need. She is making a considerable investment in these fantastic, state-of-the-art new schools and new classrooms and it makes an enormous difference.

As I said, the project is already in the construction phase. The signs are up from FK Gardner & Sons, an experienced builder of schools. It is going to continue through to 2023 and 2024, but it is due to open in January 2025. We will see a fantastic new principal come on board in mid-2024 so that enrolments can follow. The principal will be based at either Logan Reserve or Park Ridge school in a small office, possibly in the fantastic new admin centre at Park Ridge State School, so parents can do their interviews there and be ready for the following year.

We are making the investments in schools that are absolutely necessary for Logan and the families that are moving down there, but I am worried there will be cuts if there is an alternative government that does not value it.