



The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill
Minister for Multiculturalism and
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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TEACHER SKILLS DEVELOPMENT GETS BOOST

Primary school teachers in the Castle Hill area will get assistance to further develop their classroom skills to benefit their students with funding provided through the NSW Government's Quality Teaching, Successful Students initiative.

All local government schools with primary students will share a total of \$1,169,206 to improve teachers' skills with activities such as mentoring and coaching; achieving higher levels of accreditation; and collaborative lesson planning and unit development to help teachers learn new skills from each other.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said the funding will help local teachers be better equipped to be effective in their classrooms.

"Helping teachers learn and improve their craft is a vital part of providing the best education possible for our children," Mr Williams said.

"Each school will determine how this funding is best spent to address an area of most need, for example, more effective literacy and numeracy skills or better classroom management."

"I am pleased the NSW Government is delivering this important funding for our local community."

The \$244 million Quality Teaching, Successful Students initiative is part of the NSW Government's Local Schools, Local Decisions reform which has empowered schools to make local decisions about how best to meet the needs of their students.

Mr Williams stated the NSW Government will disperse \$88 million under the initiative in 2017, which is up from \$38 million last year and \$10 million in 2015.

The initiative provides NSW public schools with primary enrolments additional resources to enhance professional practice in their schools, and allows schools to implement evidence-based approaches to improve teaching and learning.

Funding amounts are based the number of students at each school with additional loadings for students with special needs. Principals will work with their executive to decide the best way to use the funding.

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