

## **Ray Williams MP**

Member for Castle Hill Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier for Western Sydney

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## NSW INVESTS AN ADDITIONAL \$113 MILLION MORE IN STUDENTS WHO NEED IT MOST

Castle Hill public schools will benefit from a share of the record \$113 million in additional funding announced by the NSW Government to support public school students who need it most.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said the needs-based funding, which has been implemented as part of the NSW Liberals & Nationals commitment to the Gonski agreement, is delivering more funding to students in a fair and transparent way.

"In 2016, local public schools will receive \$4,753,308," Mr Williams said.

"This substantial ongoing investment in public education is fantastic news for our schools, and will further boost their efforts to deliver improved student results.

The funding for 2016, made possible by NSW being the first state to sign the Gonski agreement, means NSW students will benefit from needs-based funding totalling \$860 million, distributed through the Resource Allocation Model.

Examples of local needs-based funding allocations in Castle Hill include:

- Kellyville Public School will receive \$436,457, which is an increase of \$111,200 on 2015;
- Sherwood Ridge Public School will receive \$378,180, which is an increase of \$119,483 on 2015.
- Castle Hill High School will receive \$771,351, which is an increase of \$105,786 on 2015; and

"This needs-based funding can be used in a variety of ways, including employing speech pathologists or specialist teachers to target learning areas," Mr Williams said.

Through the NSW Government's *Local Schools, Local Decisions* reform, principals in all NSW public schools are making local decisions on how to use these funds to improve student outcomes.

As a result of NSW signing up to the Gonski agreement, the NSW Government has also been able to deliver resources to improve the quality of teaching, provide more school counsellors and improve support for beginning teachers.

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