



**AIM HIGHER:** LEARNING, TRAINING AND BETTER JOBS FOR MORE AUSTRALIANS

# More teaching places under Labor

**Australian children need the best teachers in their classrooms and teachers deserve increased support for professional training. Under Labor, school classrooms will have thousands more highly skilled teachers trained at universities across the country.**

## **Labor will:**

- Fund an extra 4,600 new full and part-time teaching places by 2008. This will start with 1,700 new, commencing (full and part-time) places each year from 2005. The total cost of these additional places is \$57.4 million over four years.
- Create 500 new full-time, HECS-funded postgraduate teaching places in areas of specialisation and professional development from 2005, at a cost of \$17.9 million over four years.
- Provide an additional \$86 million over four years from 2004 to improve the quality of teacher education including meeting the costs of in-school teaching practicals.
- Cut the HECS price of maths and science courses by 30 per cent to help address the national shortage of maths and science teachers.

**Australia is facing a serious shortage of teachers over the next decade.**

The teacher workforce is ageing rapidly. More than 100,000 teachers—over 40 per cent of the current workforce—are due to retire in the next 10 years.

The Australian Council of Deans of Education and a taskforce reporting to the Ministerial Council of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs have warned of a looming shortage of quality teachers.

But under the Howard Government, nearly 30,000 potential teachers were turned away from our universities between 1997 and 2002.

Labor's plan to train thousands more teachers and upgrade their skills will cost \$161.3 million. This policy is fully costed and fully funded and will not raise students' fees.

'More teachers under Labor' is an initiative of ***Aim Higher: Learning, training and better jobs for more Australians***—Labor's plan to re-build, reform and expand Australia's universities and TAFEs.

Printed and Authorised By:



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