EDUCATION

What We Believe

The Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party believe that whilst access to education is a human right, access to quality education is a collective responsibility between educational institutions, teachers, and Government. This is to ensure that students experience a quality education that is consistent across every NSW school, not just city schools.

Our students will need to navigate the challenges of the 21st century such as globalisation, new technologies, migration, international competition and changing markets. What is key for our students thriving in this century is a proficiency in literacy and numeracy, as well as healthy personal development through outdoor recreational activity.

The disparity between regional and metropolitan schools in terms of cuts to funding, maintenance backlogs, and educational outcomes is astounding and in need of immediate review.

Our Action Plan:

1. Introduce legislation that would mandate a commitment to cover all the shortfalls in Federal Gonski funding with state funds.
2. Pursue the NSW Department of Education to develop and action a plan to reduce the maintenance backlog by at least 50% by 2020.
3. Review of Local Schools, Local Decisions and Department of Education practices and policies that have underpinned it.
4. Commitment to breaking down the competitive model that was created by ‘My School’ and have public schools work in unison rather than competition.
5. Require schools who have a significant percentage of students failing to meet minimum standards in literacy and numeracy to identify strategies within their school plan that will be implemented over the 3-year cycle that will address this, and provide further support to schools who fail to meet these targets.
6. Support programs and initiatives that will challenge and broaden student perspectives on key issues that will affect them post school.
8. Campaign to have the NSW Government formally recognise shooting, hunting and fishing as appropriate cultural activities and sports for all public schools.
9. Support the development and expansion of the TAFE system and oppose any funding cuts, especially in regional NSW.
10. Support program and initiatives that will increase literacy rates amongst indigenous and at risk young people.
11. Campaign the NSW Government to immediately introduce mandatory regional tours for primary and secondary school students in metropolitan Sydney, Wollongong and Newcastle schools to be conducted at least once yearly.