

## December budget statement from the Victorian Government

In a budget statement released on 24 November 2020 the Victorian government made \$1.1 billion available to spend on children, young people, families and their carers. The funding includes:

- fully funding the Home Stretch program that supports out-of-home care leavers up to the age of 21 years to stay with their kinship or foster families, or transition to independent living arrangements.



- support for earlier intervention through family service to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families
- the construction of two- and three-bedroom units to better meet the needs of young people in residential care.
- establishing 'Care Hubs' to provide wrap-around support for children, young people and sibling groups entering out-of-home care to give a greater sense of security and promote reunification with their families.
- \$230 million to continue the implementation of the Family Violence Royal Commission recommendations.

### Investment in families

Funding for families includes:

- support for refugee and asylum seeker families to access playgroups and kindergartens.
- a \$5.3 billion social housing build.

Families doing it tough have been given a \$250 voucher for energy bills, and additional funding to support students in school activities such as camps, sports, outdoor education programs and excursions.

In keeping with the theme of fairness, the Victorian Government has launched a new funding and support model for school students with disability, a transport program for students with disability and an Inclusive Schools Fund.

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