

Queensland: the future is bright



Option 1

Individual Trust Accounts for Education – an individual endowment that would mean every newborn child would have a nest egg valued between \$7800 and \$9500 when they turn 18.

Option 2

Dedicated Education Fund: an investment fund where the proceeds are reinvested by Government in education and training initiatives beyond the basics throughout the schooling years and potentially beyond.

You can have your say by writing to us at:

Education Trust, PO Box 15185, Brisbane 4000

Email: Education.Trust@premiers.qld.gov.au

Feedback can also be provided online by going to <http://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au> and clicking on 'Mines to Minds'.

FROM MINES TO MINDS

Premier Anna Bligh has launched a plan to use the State's resources to fuel the education of the next generation of Queenslanders.

The paper proposes the establishment of a multi-billion dollar Queensland Education Trust using 50% of future LNG royalties – projected at more than \$1.8 billion in the next 10 years alone.

"We want to take the wealth from the earth and use it to train the minds of our children," said the Premier.

"We can harness the energy of the decade of prosperity we see before us to create a golden generation that will secure Queensland's bright future for a century and more.

The Premier said under the Trust account model every Queensland child born on or after July 1, 2012 would receive a savings endowment at birth that could be accessed at age 18.

"This would consist of an initial deposit of \$500 at birth followed by a further contribution of around \$3,200 in the year they enter Prep when the first royalties from the LNG industry will begin to flow," said the Premier.

Under the second option the QET would invest up to 50% of LNG royalties as an education 'future fund'.

"This would be used to provide extra funding over and above what is currently provided and would give Queensland children a huge advantage over children from other states."

"We are on the cusp of a bright future, bringing massive prosperity in the coming decade. We can use that prosperity to create a golden era that can last for a hundred years and that is our vision for Queensland."

Geoff Wilson mp

Member for Ferny Grove & Health Minister

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Working hard, getting results

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Local Decisions: stronger school communities

Queensland students are set to reap the rewards from Bligh government plans to allow school communities a greater say in their children's education.

Premier Anna Bligh and Education Minister Cameron Dick released the discussion paper—*Local Decisions: stronger school communities*, to get public input on giving more decision-making power to school communities.

"The most effective schools are those where the principal, school staff, parents and the school community work together to get the best outcomes for students," Ms Bligh said.

"We want to help school communities strike the right balance – so that students get the best education possible."

Ms Bligh said proposals outlined in the discussion paper included:

- Allowing principals and school communities to have more say in the mix of learning programs
- Giving school communities more say in the appointment of principals
- Allowing greater community use of school facilities
- Allowing principals to appoint some teaching staff
- Allowing principals to make 'early offers' to student teachers
- More flexibility for schools to manage their capital works and maintenance budgets
- Giving principals more flexibility to secure funding through philanthropic arrangements.

"Schools and school communities know best what decisions need to be made to meet individual student needs."

The discussion paper has been developed in conjunction with teachers, principals and P&Cs and is supported by stakeholders.



Bligh Government announces Year 7 pilot schools

The 20 Queensland state schools to pilot Year 7 in high school ahead of the statewide move in 2015 have been finalised.

"I am delighted that such a diverse range of schools will be able to play a key role in the Bligh Government's exciting plan to shift Year 7 to high school in 2015," Mr Dick said.

"The Year 7 move is a key part of our government's commitment to giving all Queensland children the best possible start to learning and life.

"The 20 pilot schools range from large metropolitan schools to small rural and regional schools, and include schools which currently cater for Prep to Year 10, Years 8 to 12 and Prep to Year 12.

For more information please go to <http://deta.qld.gov.au/initiatives/flyingstart/year7pilot/pilotschools.html>

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