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Minister for Education

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Mapping the future of education in Australia

Australia will renew its goals for education to reflect the changing nature of education, the economy and work.

Over the last ten years, major economic, social and technological changes have been reshaping employment, the economy, society and individuals so it is timely to have a discussion about Australia's future education system.

At a special forum in Melbourne today, improvements to the 2008 Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians were considered that cover:

- The importance of early learning
- The changing nature of education, the economy and work
- Increasing the need for lifelong learning
- Renewed emphasis on vocational education and training
- Renewed focus on equity
- The importance of smooth and carefully planned transitions

Minister for Education Dan Tehan praised the contribution of every minister and stakeholder at the forum for their long-term vision and commitment to the quality education of every Australian.

"Parents, teachers and principals want our kids to get a quality education and today our leading education stakeholders helped set the direction of this important review," Mr Tehan said.

"We need an education system that meets the needs of every Australian, no matter where they live and no matter where they learn.

"To update our education goals I want to hear from the students in the classroom, the teachers and principals on the frontline and the parents supporting their school communities."

Minister for Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education Michaelia Cash said updating our goals for education was an opportunity to shape an education system that reflected a modern Australia and prepared our children for the future economy.

"The Liberal National Government is committed to ensuring that a Vocational education is seen as equal to a University education in terms of meeting the needs of our future workforce," Ms Cash said.

The Melbourne Declaration had two goals. Goal 1: Australian schooling promotes equity and excellence and Goal 2: All young Australians become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens.

A wide-ranging consultation phase will follow.

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