



## **SENATOR THE HON SIMON BIRMINGHAM**

Minister for Education and Training  
Manager of Government Business in the Senate  
Senator for South Australia

## **Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck**

Senator for Tasmania

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

17 August 2018

## **Josephite Centre opened at St Peter Chanel Catholic School**

Students and staff at St Peter Chanel Catholic School in Smithton will have full use of the newly constructed Josephite Centre consisting of the extended general learning areas, the new general learning areas and multipurpose hall and the refurbished administration area thanks to funding from the Turnbull Government.

Senator Colbeck participated in the opening of the new facilities today on behalf of the Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham.

“It was great to visit St Peter Chanel Catholic School and see the new facilities firsthand and the impact they will have on students’ learning potential,” Senator Colbeck said.

The Turnbull Government delivered over \$519,645 in funding from the Capital Grants Program.

Senator Colbeck said students and the whole school community would benefit from these new facilities.

“These new learning spaces take into account the latest in educational research and will see students learn more effectively.”

“This is part of our commitment to ensuring students have the support they need to succeed in the classroom.”

Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham said in addition to funding for projects like the Josephite Centre the Turnbull Government was also delivering a new funding system to ensure every student gets the resources they need.

“Catholic systemic schools in Tasmania are also benefitting from increased funding under these arrangements. Funding for the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office is estimated to grow from \$149.2 million in 2017 to \$156.1 million in 2018, \$178.3 million in 2021 and \$208.4 million in 2027. This represents an average per student increase of 5.0 per cent each year over the next four years,” Minister Birmingham said.

“We know that funding and buildings alone don’t make a great school so the Government commissioned the *Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools*, led by Mr David Gonski. We’ve accepted the 23 recommendations from the Review on how schools can best use the extra resources we’re delivering to boost student outcomes and we’re working to deliver them alongside states and territories and non-government school authorities.”

“Families and teachers can see exactly what our \$24.5 billion funding boost means for their local schools by visiting our funding estimator at [www.education.gov.au/qualityschools](http://www.education.gov.au/qualityschools) and they can learn more about our quality reforms.

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