



Supporting the first Hindu faith school in Australia	
Party:	The Coalition
<p>Summary of proposal:</p> <p>The proposal would provide up to \$8.5 million to support the establishment of Australia's first Hindu school. The funding would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• up to \$850,000 to be provided to the Hindu Council of Australia for a business case to assess feasibility, costs, location, benefits and risks to ensure the location of the school, regulation and planning processes receive the backing they need• a further \$7.65 million for capital expenditure once the business case is completed. <p>The proposal would start on 1 July 2025.</p>	
<p>Additional information (based on further advice provided):</p> <p>Departmental funding would be in addition to the capped amount.</p>	

Costing overview

The proposal would be expected to decrease the fiscal and underlying cash balances by around \$8.9 million over the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period (see Table 1). This impact reflects an increase administered and departmental expenses.

The proposal would not be expected to have an impact beyond the 2025-26 Budget forward estimates period, other than for public debt interest (PDI) costs. A breakdown of the financial implications (including separate PDI tables) over the period to 2035-36 is provided at Attachment A.

The Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) has not made any assessment as to whether the specified funding would be sufficient to meet the objectives of the proposal.

Table 1: Supporting the first Hindu faith school in Australia – Financial implications (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total to 2028-29
Fiscal balance	-1.0	-2.7	-2.6	-2.6	-8.9
Underlying cash balance	-1.0	-2.7	-2.6	-2.6	-8.9

(a) A positive number represents an increase in the relevant budget balance; a negative number represents a decrease.

(b) PDI impacts are not included in the totals.

Key assumptions

The PBO has made the following assumptions in costing this proposal.

- The land would be made available for the purpose of the school development.
- The planning stage funding of \$850,000 would be distributed in full in 2025-26.

- The capital establishment fund of \$7.65 million would be distributed evenly over 3 years from 2026-27 to 2028-29.

Methodology

The proposal is capped at a fixed amount, distributed as per *Key assumptions*. Departmental expenses were estimated based on the cost of administering similar programs and are in addition to the capped funding amount. Administered expenses are as specified in the proposal. We assume that no funds allocated to a given year are left unspent.

Financial implications were rounded consistent with the PBO's rounding rules.¹

Data sources

Commonwealth of Australia (2025) *Pre-election Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2025*, Commonwealth of Australia.

Departmental expenses were informed by similar measures in the Commonwealth budgets from 2015-16 to 2021-22.

NSW Government (2025) [New high school for Gooqong](#), accessed 21 May 2025.

¹ <https://www.pbo.gov.au/for-parliamentarians/how-we-analyse/pbo-rounding-rules>

Attachment A – Supporting the first Hindu faith school in Australia – Financial implications

Table A1: Supporting the first Hindu faith school in Australia – Fiscal and underlying cash balances (\$m)^(a)

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Total to 2028-29	Total to 2035-36
Expenses													
Total – administered	-0.9	-2.6	-2.5	-2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-8.5	-8.5
Total – departmental	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-0.4	-0.4
Total (excluding PDI)	-1.0	-2.7	-2.6	-2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-8.9	-8.9

- (a) A positive number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A positive number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in receipts or a decrease in payments or net capital investment in cash terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates a decrease in receipts or an increase in payments or net capital investment in cash terms.
- Indicates nil.

Table A2: Supporting the first Hindu faith school in Australia – Memorandum item: Public Debt Interest (PDI) impacts – Fiscal and underlying cash balances (\$m)^{(a)(b)}

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35	2035-36	Total to 2028-29	Total to 2035-36
Fiscal balance	..	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-4.0
Underlying cash balance	..	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.6	-3.9

- (a) As this table is presented as a memorandum item, these figures are not reflected in the totals above. This is consistent with the approach taken in the budget where the budget impact of most measures is presented excluding the impact on PDI. If the reader would like a complete picture of the total aggregate, then these figures would need to be added to the figures above. For further information on government borrowing and financing please refer to the PBO's online budget glossary².
- (b) A positive number for the fiscal balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A negative number for the fiscal balance indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses or net capital investment in accrual terms. A positive number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in receipts or a decrease in payments or net capital investment in cash terms. A negative number for the underlying cash balance indicates a decrease in receipts or an increase in payments or net capital investment in cash terms.
- .. Not zero but rounded to zero.

² [Online budget glossary – Parliamentary Budget Office \(pbo.gov.au\)](https://pbo.gov.au/online-budget-glossary)