



Australian Government

Department of Finance

The Treasury

PUBLIC RELEASE OF 2019 ELECTION COMMITMENT COSTING

Name of proposal costed:	
Costing Identifier:	COA054
Summary of costing:	<p>The proposal is to invest \$10.8 million over three years from 2019-20 to provide a voluntary phonics health check for Year 1 students, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$8 million to develop a Phonics Hub – a new online resource for parents and teachers with extensive online professional development resources for teachers; and• \$2.8 million for grants to primary schools, particularly those in low-socio economic areas, to access phonics resources and training.
Ongoing or Terminating (including date)^(a)	Terminating on 30 June 2022
Person making the request:	Prime Minister
Date costing request received:	13 May 2019
Date of public release of policy:	10 May 2019
Date costing completed:	15 May 2019
Additional information requested (including date):	Not Applicable
Additional information received (including date):	Not Applicable

(a) Ongoing policies continue indefinitely (until a decision is made to cease or alter the program).

Terminating measures end on a date set out in the initial policy and a further decision is required to continue the program beyond this date.

Financial implications (outturn prices)^(b)

Impact on	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Underlying Cash Balance (\$m)	0.0	-2.2	-4.3	-4.3	0.0
Fiscal Balance (\$m)	0.0	-2.2	-4.3	-4.3	0.0

(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 positive number for the underlying cash balance indicates an increase in revenue or a decrease in expenses or net capital investment in cash terms.

Where relevant, state that the proposal has been costed as a defined or specified amount.

The proposal has been costed as a specified amount.

Where relevant, include separate identification of revenue and expense components.

Not applicable.

Where appropriate, include a range for the costing or sensitivity analysis.

Not applicable.

Qualifications to the costing (including reasons for the costing not being comprehensive).

Not applicable.

Where relevant, explain effects of departmental expenses.

Consistent with the costing request, the costing assumes that departmental expenses associated with the policy will be absorbed by the Department of Education and Training.

Where relevant, explain the reason for any significant differences between the assumptions specified in a party costing request and those used in a Treasury or Finance costing.

Not applicable.

Other comments (including reasons for significant differences between the estimated impact on the fiscal and underlying cash balances).

Not applicable.

Where relevant, include an explanation of the medium term implications of the proposal^(c).

Not applicable.

(c) Information on the medium term implications will be provided if the cost of the policy is expected to be significantly different beyond the forward estimates period.

Background information

Costing methodology used:

The costing assumes a funding profile consistent with the costing request.

Behavioural assumptions used (as appropriate)

Not applicable.