

**HILLARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Statement by Member for Hillarys*

**MR P.A. KATSAMBANIS (Hillarys)** [12.50 pm]: I am so glad to stand today and confirm that strong advocacy by a local member and local community can get real results. Finally, the state government has listened to the people of Hillarys and has answered our call for a new school to replace the tired old buildings at Hillarys Primary School.

This school has been ignored for far too long. When I became the member for Hillarys in 2017, I called for the rebuilding of local schools like Hillarys Primary School that were old, tired, and well past their use-by date. Hillarys Primary School is the largest primary school in my electorate. It has almost 600 students and is facing growth pressures. It is bursting at the seams and is coping with dilapidated and unsafe buildings. It took some time for the government to listen. Even after a ceiling at the school collapsed and fell on three students in September this year, no money was found in the October state budget to rebuild the school, but the amazing school community and the people of Hillarys would not take no for an answer. Hundreds of people signed my petition to rebuild the school and backed my calls for the government to listen. The people of Hillarys are grateful that there is now bipartisan support to rebuild the school so that local students and teachers can enjoy the modern state-of-the-art facilities they need and deserve by the start of the 2023 school year.

So much more needs to be done in my area. Old schools like Springfield Primary School also need to be rebuilt. I assure all residents in the electorate of Hillarys that I will continue to fight for the needs of our local community because our locals deserve to be treated with the respect that every other Western Australian gets.