



First Nations Education – Clontarf Foundation and MultiLit

The Australian Government will invest a further \$35.1 million in two programs to support First Nations students.

This includes a \$33.6 million investment to enable the Clontarf Foundation to support up to 12,500 First Nations boys and young men to continue their schooling education in 2026. A further \$1.5 million will be provided to the MultiLit program under the Scaling Up Proven Primary Reading Programs measure.

How will this initiative work?

The Clontarf Foundation encourages boys and young men to improve their confidence, school engagement, Year 12 attainment and post-school pathways. It provides in-school support, as well as before and after school activities.

MultiLit will continue to deliver its phonics-based programs across Australia in 42 regional and remote primary schools with a majority of First Nations students until the end of 2026.

Why is it important?

The Clontarf Foundation has an established record in improving student engagement through increased attendance, retention and overall academic performance.

MultiLit delivers phonics-based programs that support primary school students to catch up in reading and early literacy.

Who will benefit?

First Nations boys and young men will benefit from the support the Clontarf Foundation provides. The Clontarf Foundation works with students who would otherwise not attend school or have low school attendance.

In 2023, the Clontarf Foundation reported that 836 young men it supported completed Year 12, and 86 per cent of young men who completed Year 12 in 2022 remained in jobs or further education 12 months after leaving school.

MultiLit is evidence-based and its programs are supporting more First Nations students in rural and remote Australia to improve their literacy outcomes.

How much will it cost?

The Australian Government will invest a further \$35.1 million in the Clontarf Foundation and MultiLit.