



Barry O'Farrell MP

NSW Opposition Leader

Shadow Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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LIBS TO BOOST FUNDING TO LIFE EDUCATION

NSW Opposition Leader Barry O'Farrell and Shadow Minister for Health Jillian Skinner today announced a NSW Liberals & Nationals Government would increase support to Life Education by \$500,000 to help teach children around NSW about healthy lifestyles.

"Life Education, through its Mobile Learning Centres and education facility in Colyton, see approximately 335,000 children a year throughout NSW, teaching very important lessons about healthy living," Mr O'Farrell said after touring the Colyton facility with Liberal Candidate for Mulgoa Tanya Davies.

"I want to ensure Life Education and Happy Healthy Harold are able to keep spreading that healthy lifestyles message to children throughout NSW, which is why I have committed to delivering an additional \$500,000 funding," he said.

"This funding will go towards subsidising the cost of excursions and school visits for each child, which will help hard working families struggling with the cost of living.

"Our commitment will also help Life Education replace its aging vehicle fleet – the Harold Express – which will ensure children in rural and regional NSW have access to the important lessons about healthy living.

"Unfortunately today's announcement is needed to make up for years of Labor neglect and failure to adequately invest in this important program.

"Sending children a strong message about the dangers of alcohol, smoking and drugs is incredibly important as we try to prevent young people from engaging in behaviour that is detrimental to their health and wellbeing.

"By preventing drug use, smoking and alcohol abuse we will not only help people live healthier lives, but importantly ease demand on our public health system which is already struggling to cope.

Mrs Skinner said today's announcement is a further indication of the NSW Liberals & Nationals commitment to healthy lifestyles.

"Only the NSW Liberals & Nationals are committed to promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing people from ending up at the acute end of our health care system," Mrs Skinner said.

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