

## Department of Education fails to address teacher shortages

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Federation has criticised a new casual teacher supplementation program initiated by the Department of Education, labelling it as “woefully inadequate”.

The program, released this week, will pilot a “hub and spoke” and in build teacher relief model of support that will be introduced into just 73 of the state’s 2200 public schools.

With a focus on regional areas, the “hub and spoke” component will provide just two teachers to six hubs in rural and remote NSW. Those teachers will then provide support to 64 surrounding schools.

Federation Deputy President Henry Rajendra said the initiative fails to recognise the urgent need for systemic improvements across the state.

“This announcement delivers just 12 additional teachers to a public school system that supports the learning of more than 800,000 students. In built relief across the entire system coupled with increased permanency must be an urgent priority for the NSW government,” Mr Rajendra said.



“Expanding every school’s staffing entitlement by employing additional permanent teachers to reduce the teaching load of all teachers is what must happen in order to genuinely facilitate in built relief in our schools.”

In further response to the announcement, Mr Rajendra reiterated Federation’s campaign for additional release time and a curriculum guarantee for all students.

“It is unacceptable that many students are denied access to the full breadth of a comprehensive curriculum taught by suitably qualified permanent teachers”, he said.

“The State Government and Department have failed to address the excessive teacher workload and in doing so continue to fail in their responsibility to ensure a curriculum guarantee for all students.

“If the State Government is serious about improving support for schools they would take more than a tokenistic approach to this.”

Mr Rajendra urged all members to show their support for Federation’s staffing campaign by coming together and voting on a [workplace motion](#).