

## **Rob Stokes MP**

Minister for the Environment Minister for Heritage Minister for the Central Coast Assistant Minister for Planning

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## CHICKENS TO TEACH STUDENTS ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY

Environment Minister Rob Stokes and Member for Campbelltown Bryan Doyle today announced funding for a new chicken pen and storage shed at John Therry Catholic High School to help students learn about sustainable living.

Mr Doyle said the NSW Government was pleased to support the school's efforts to engage students in this initiative.

"This new chicken pen will provide an authentic animal husbandry learning experience for students. It will also help the whole school community share social skills and build an understanding of sustainable living," Mr Doyle said.

"This project will encourage and empower students with learning support needs and other disadvantages by engaging them in learning in a practical and fulfilling way.

"By encouraging social responsibility and modelling sustainable practices to students, this project will have a positive impact on the wider community."

"I am delighted the NSW Government has been able to support the school in this project. Members of the community are also supporting the school's efforts by helping with construction and the ongoing care for the animals, which is a terrific achievement."

Environment Minister Rob Stokes said food gardens in schools offer valuable learning opportunities for students and the broader school community\.

"Protecting and enhancing the environment of NSW is our shared responsibility and initiatives such as this support the community to care for their own environments," Mr Stokes said.

"This project will provide an real hands-on experience for both students and teachers by adding chickens to their existing food garden, and is a real community effort with local residents providing their skills and labour to get this project running.

"I congratulate John Therry Catholic High School staff and students for their efforts to promote and practice sustainability.

"I encourage students to take their knowledge home with them so they can educate their families on the importance of sustainability."