

# Media Release

**The Hon James Merlino MP**

Deputy Premier

Minister for the Coordination of Education and Training – COVID-19

Minister for Education



Thursday, 21 May 2020

## **NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOL DESIGN AWARDS**

The state's latest and best school building designs will be centre stage at the 2020 Victorian School Design Awards.

Minister for Education James Merlino today announced that nominations are open for the awards, which celebrates the architects and designers who are making a difference in the classroom with their unique and creative designs that deliver better learning spaces for students.

The exciting designs are emerging from the state's school construction boom. Since 2015, the Victorian Government has invested a record \$7.2 billion to build new schools and modernise or expand more than 1,460 existing ones.

That construction boom has continued throughout the coronavirus disruption, with the Government's election commitment to deliver 100 new schools by 2026 on track.

The awards are open to architects who designed a Victorian government school building completed between June 2018 and June 2020.

Architects are invited to enter their designs for new buildings, stages of buildings, redevelopment or refurbishment of a space, schools designed for special needs, small rural campuses or individual facilities such as performing arts spaces, learning centres, libraries and technology wings.

For more information, visit: [education.vic.gov.au](http://education.vic.gov.au)

Online submissions can be made at [vicschooldesign.awardsplatform.com](http://vicschooldesign.awardsplatform.com)

Submissions close on 31 July 2020 and the awards will be presented at a special ceremony later this year.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino**

*"These awards recognise the important role architects are playing in making Victoria a world leader in school design."*

*"We're not just building more schools to cater for the state's rapidly growing population - we're creating modern schools that are better equipped for the 21<sup>st</sup> century to give Victorian students the best start in life."*