

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Education

Minister for Mental Health



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FITZROY GASWORKS SCHOOL CAMPUS A STEP CLOSER FOR FAMILIES

Families living in Melbourne's inner northern suburbs are a step closer to having a vibrant new senior secondary college campus, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Education James Merlino and Member for Richmond Richard Wynne today toured the construction site of the new senior school campus at Fitzroy Gasworks and announced Chris Millard as the new campus principal.

The state-of-the-art vertical campus will accommodate senior students from Fitzroy High School and Collingwood College and is one of 14 new schools and campuses set to open in 2022 under the Labor Government's school building boom.

Watpac Construction has been appointed to build the new campus. Once complete, it will include general learning spaces, an arts and performance space, a digital design and technology hub, a wood and metalwork hub, and access to a rooftop terrace outdoor court and activity space.

The new campus will host senior programs in VCE, VET and VCAL studies for students in years 10-12. Both schools already have an established partnership in place for their senior secondary subjects, where they share teachers, facilities and students across the two schools.

Chris Millard, who has been working as Senior Programs Leader for both schools, will begin his new role as campus principal in 2021. He will oversee the continued joint provision of the senior secondary programs and manage the campus when it opens in 2022.

The Fitzroy Gasworks is an important part of Fitzroy North's heritage – with the school campus part of plans to re-energise the former industrial site. The Gasworks site will serve the community well due to its proximity to public transport, open space and established community facilities.

The new school campus shared in \$624.8 million in the *Victorian Budget 2019/20* allocated for new schools.

The Labor Government is investing an unprecedented \$7.2 billion in Victorian school infrastructure, which is delivering more than 1,460 school upgrades and 100 new schools by 2026 – ensuring every child can access a great local school where they can achieve their best.

Quote attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

"This new campus is yet another great example of the school building boom that is happening right across Victoria, which not only support a stronger education future but continue to help Victoria's economy rebound from the COVID crisis."

Quote attributable to Member for Richmond Richard Wynne

"Fitzroy High School and Collingwood College already have a strong partnership in place and this new campus at Fitzroy Gasworks, led by Chris Millard, will broaden educational opportunities for their students."