

Media Release

The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Minister for Training and Skills
Minister for Higher Education



Friday, 27 November 2020

COLLINGWOOD CAMPUS TO TRANSFORM

Thousands of TAFE students in Melbourne's inner north will soon be learning under the best possible conditions thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney today visited Melbourne Polytechnic's Collingwood Campus to discuss details of the \$40 million project that will transform the site into a first-class education, industry and community precinct.

The project is part of the overall \$107.6 million investment in TAFE infrastructure, announced in the *Victoria Budget 2020/21*.

The current precinct will be redeveloped with an entirely new building and car park while the existing buildings will be entirely modernised and refurbished.

It will allow Melbourne Polytechnic to revitalise the delivery of TAFE in the area - ensuring their learning spaces teach the skills the community and local industry want and need.

The redeveloped Collingwood campus will offer courses including information technology, creative arts and English as a Second Language (EAL), and Free TAFE courses in areas such as Community Services and Cyber Security.

Work is expected to commence in 2021 and finish in 2023, allowing the facility to open for the first semester of 2024 with construction expected to create 80 jobs.

Chisholm Institute also benefited from Tuesday's State Budget, with an investment of \$67.6 million for stage two of the redevelopment of its Frankston Campus.

The *Victorian Budget 2020/21* announced this week includes an unprecedented overall investment of \$1 billion to ensure Victoria has the training and skills system it needs as the state emerges from the global pandemic.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney

"This exciting project will see Melbourne Polytechnic deliver a revitalised flagship TAFE campus in Collingwood, giving Victorians greater study options in central Melbourne to develop their skills to get into decent, stable jobs."

"This is part of a wider investment to make sure Victorians have the chance to get new skills and a new start – particularly those Victorians who have lost work through the pandemic."

Quote attributable to Member for Richmond Richard Wynne

"These new facilities are designed to meet the demand for skilled workers in growing industries – this investment is exciting for Melbourne Polytechnic, for the community, and for industry."