

# Media Release

**The Hon James Merlino MP**

Deputy Premier

Minister for Education

Minister for Mental Health



Friday, 29 January 2021

## CRANBOURNE WEST SECONDARY COLLEGE OPENS ITS DOORS

Families across Cranbourne will have access to a great local school close to home as Cranbourne West Secondary College officially opened its doors.

More than one million students return to schools across the state this week – including 84,000 preps – as 14 new schools open their doors as part of the Andrews Labor Government’s school building boom.

Minister for Education James Merlino and Member for Cranbourne Pauline Richards today officially open the new Cranbourne West Secondary College and welcomed its first students.

The school will cater for up to 1100 mainstream and 100 specialist students once all stages are complete and includes a new learning community, visual arts building, a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) building, an administration building, sports field and two outdoor play courts.

As a supported inclusion school, additional facilities are included in the design to accommodate students with additional needs, such as; wider corridors, more spaces for consultation classrooms, a project/kitchen space for students with special eating requirements and a fitness room for therapeutic use.

Cranbourne West Secondary College has 187 students starting this year, and is one of 14 new schools opening in 2021.

In the past five years, the Labor Government has invested more than \$9 billion in more than 1,600 school upgrades – creating more than 10,000 construction jobs.

The Government is now ahead of schedule on its commitment to open 100 new schools by 2026, with 48 new schools opening between 2019 and 2022.

For more information on the Victorian Government’s school building boom, visit [www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au](http://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

*“The first day of school is a big day every year – but particularly after the year we had last year. I thank every teacher, student and parent for their efforts last year and wish them well for the year ahead.”*

*“We’re building new schools across the state so every child has a great local school and a best start in life – wherever they live.”*

### Quote attributable to Member for Cranbourne Pauline Richards

*“Every student in Cranbourne deserves access to a great local school close to home and that is exactly what we are delivering.”*

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