

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP
Acting Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Mental Health



Monday 31 January 2022

STUDENTS RETURN TO HISTORIC SANDRINGHAM SCHOOL IN 2022

The historic Sandringham Primary School building will be back open to students when Term 1 starts next week, with the Andrews Labor Government completing critical repair works after the building was gutted by fire.

Minister for Education James Merlino today welcomed a new era for the beloved bayside campus - which was one of Victoria's first schools, opening in 1855, before being critically damaged during a fire in February 2020.

The renovated school features contemporary indoor and outdoor learning areas, a library, an art workshop and staff amenities, designed by Peter Elliott Architecture.

Architects and builders have paid homage to the centuries old school by preserving original elements that survived the fire, including brick walls.

The fire completely destroyed the library, art room, learning spaces and staff areas. About 500 students as well as staff have been temporarily relocated to the Sandringham College junior campus, but will return to their home school from next week.

For more information about the Sandringham Primary School rebuild visit schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

"Sandringham Primary School is one of Victoria's oldest schools – and I'm delighted to announce its reopening which is a real milestone for the local community."

"Schools are at the heart of communities – which is why we backed the critical renovation at Sandringham as part of our significant education investment across Victoria."

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan Enver Erdogan

"This is a really exciting milestone for Sandringham Primary School – its rich history and modern renovation will be an inspiration to the local community for generations to come."