

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Emergency Services



DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS

Thursday, 25 October 2018

MELBA COLLEGE SCIENCE BUILDING AND STADIUM TAKES SHAPE

Students in Melbourne's outer east are a step closer to having the first-rate sports, science and arts facilities they deserve, thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Education James Merlino and Member for Eastern Metropolitan Shaun Leane today visited Melba College in Croydon to turn the sod on Stage 2 of its rebuild, including construction of a new basketball stadium and cutting-edge science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEAM) building.

The new stadium will include four indoor competition-grade courts, referee rooms and change rooms and is being built in partnership with Kilsyth Basketball. Students will be able to use the courts during school hours and Kilsyth Basketball will have access outside of school hours.

The rebuild also includes a new STEAM building to deliver a modern education for students using state-of-the-art facilities.

The Labor Government is delivering \$13.7 million for the new stadium and school rebuild, including \$1.5 million through its Shared Facilities Fund and \$1.17 million through Sport and Recreation Victoria. Kilsyth Basketball is providing \$2 million towards the new stadium.

Melba College is being completely rebuilt, including bringing the junior and senior campuses together on one site and upgrading the school's facilities. It received \$17.9 million for Stage 1 of the upgrade in the *Victorian Budget 2016-17*.

New facilities completed earlier this year include three double-storey buildings that will provide space for growing enrolments, new flexible modern learning spaces, admin offices, library and cafeteria.

The Labor Government is building the Education State so that every student can access a great local school and education, and has invested more than \$3.8 billion to improve classrooms, upgrade facilities and build new schools across the state.

This school building boom has delivered more than 1,300 school upgrades and 70 new school projects across the state, supporting more than 5,000 construction jobs for Victorians.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

"This exciting school rebuild will give Melba College teachers the modern facilities they need to deliver the 21st century education students deserve."

"Melba College's new basketball stadium will not only provide fantastic sporting facilities for students but also allow the school to be used by the wider community."

Quotes attributable to Member for Eastern Metropolitan Shaun Leane

"This is a growing community – and parents deserve to know their kids will have a great local school."

"Not only will we help Melba College to expand and grow – we'll invest in new sports facilities to benefit the entire community."

Media contact: Stephanie Jones 0439 600 616 | stephanie.jones@minstaff.vic.gov.au