



Department of
Education and Training

Media Statement

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More north eastern schools start transformation

Work on major infrastructure projects at public primary schools across the Swan Education District is steaming ahead, with construction underway at nearly 20 schools as part of the Building the Education Revolution's (BER) Primary Schools for the 21st Century.

The BER infrastructure program is the largest ever undertaken in WA public schools.

The projects already underway include new libraries, classrooms, early childhood education centres, undercover areas, music rooms and art rooms, with construction at several other schools in the district scheduled to start in the coming weeks. A list of schools under construction follows.

Anzac Terrace Primary School principal Neil Strachan said the school was getting a \$1.4 million three-class early childhood education centre and a \$300,000 extension to the school's library.

Builders have so far installed the footings and plumbing pipes, and are preparing to lay the concrete pad at the Bassendean school.

"At the moment our pre-primary students are in converted classrooms and our kindergarten class is in a transportable building," Mr Strachan said.

"Having a purpose-built early childhood centre will be a great asset for the school and a wonderful way to introduce our younger students to school life.

"The new early childhood classrooms will give us an opportunity to use the existing pre-primary rooms for other activities such as design and technology projects and to cook the fruit and vegetables students will soon be growing in our planned sustainable kitchen garden.

"Our students will be able to eat what they grow and we hope to involve the community in the garden, so it will be an exciting focus for our school."

The kitchen garden will be built by the school and the P&C in the coming weeks as part of the school's 40th birthday celebrations.

The refurbishment and extension of the school's library will include a teacher resource area, separate work area for library staff, improvements to the building's ceiling and insulation and a new soundproof audiovisual area.

"At the moment the library is too cramped to accommodate more than one class at a time, but the new extension will mean two classes can work in the library without disturbing each other," Mr Strachan said.

"It will be much more open, welcoming and user-friendly."

In WA public primary schools, \$1.143 billion is being spent on the Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) element of BER.

BER is in turn part of the Australian Government's Nation Building – Economic Stimulus Plan.

The WA Government will spend an additional \$300 million to build 14 new public schools over the next six years and an extra \$50 million on a four-year public school capital improvements program.

(ENDS)

Note: photographs and interviews available on request.

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Schools where BER construction has begun – Swan District

School	Projects
Anzac Terrace Primary School	\$1.4m – three-class early childhood education centre \$300,000 – library refurbishment
Ashfield Primary School	\$750,000 – library
Bassendean Primary School	\$700,000 – library \$1.3m – three-class early childhood education centre
Burbridge School	\$300,000 – covered assembly area
Camboon Primary School	\$750,000 – library \$1.7m – covered assembly area with multipurpose room
Dryandra Primary School	\$950,000 – two-class early childhood education centre \$1.4m – four-classroom block
Koondoola Primary School	\$750,000 – library \$1.7m – covered assembly with multipurpose room
Mirrabooka Primary School	\$750,000 – library \$1.3m – covered assembly area and music room
Noranda Primary School	\$850,000 – multipurpose room \$1.05m – three-class early childhood centre
North Balga Primary School	\$2.2m – five-class early childhood centre
North East Metropolitan Language Development Centre	\$1.35m – three-class early childhood centre
Tuart Hill Primary School	\$1.7m – two-classroom and multipurpose block
Waddington Primary School	\$610,000 – library \$100,000 – enclose covered assembly area
Warriapendi Primary School	\$750,000 – library \$800,000 – multipurpose room
Weld Square Primary School	\$750,000 – library \$800,000 – multipurpose room
West Beechboro Primary School	\$850,000 – multipurpose block \$1.25m – three-class early childhood education centre
Westminster Junior Primary School	\$1.35m – three-class early childhood education centre
Westminster Primary School	\$750,000 – library \$1.6m – three-classrooms and art block
Yokine Primary School	\$850,000 – multipurpose room \$1.3m – three-classroom early childhood education centre