

Enjoying fresh start at Fergusson

By COLIN WILLIAMS

The school year started in style at Fergusson Intermediate on Thursday with the first of the school's new purpose-built classrooms welcoming their intake of years 7 and 8 students.

The four classrooms have been built on the western wing where the intermediate's original 1960s two-storey block was. It was demolished in September.

The remainder of the original 12-classroom block was cleared over the school holidays and their replacement classrooms will be built and completed before September, school principal Paul Patterson says.

The new buildings feature four general classrooms, a central shared learning space, a small group/withdrawal room and separate toilet and changing rooms.

This forms a single teaching syndicate and the fully completed block will feature three syndicates in a cohesive plan.

The new classrooms are the first result of the school's \$7 million redevelopment in an educational state-of-the-art overhaul of the intermediate, constructed by Armstrong Downes and designed by McKenzie Higham Architecture.

"It's a significant milestone for the school and the school community," Mr Patterson said on Thursday.



New entrance: Fergusson Intermediate students, from left, Caution Dalley, Alex Row, Gabriel Newman and Emma Conaghan at their new classroom syndicate range. For Alex and Gabriel it was their first day at their new intermediate.



First up: Teacher Rachel Van Der Gulik gets going with her 2011 intake in one of the school's four new classrooms.

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