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**HEALTH AND SPORTS CENTRE THE NEXT CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT AT  
METHODIST LADIES' COLLEGE**

Hot on the heels of the opening of a new purpose-built Middle School at Methodist Ladies' College this year, MLC is pleased to accelerate delivery of a new Health and Sports Centre with the support of \$2.5 million in Federal Government funding.

Announced as part of the Government's Building the Education Revolution program, Chair of MLC Council, Emeritus Professor Lesley Parker said the funding would help fulfil the College's progressive campus development plans and ensure the best resources were available for its students.

"MLC has made a substantial investment in its forward-looking campus development plan which reaches to 2016 and delivers world-class learning and teaching facilities for students from Kindergarten to Year 12," she said.

"Significant progress has been made on the plan to date, the most recent being the newly-opened Middle School building which caters for the unique needs of adolescent students in Years 7 to 9, and for each year level features classrooms, multi-use areas, seminar rooms and offices for teachers. The building also encompasses teaching areas and an auditorium for Theatre Arts, and teaching and exhibition spaces for Creative Arts.

"Previous accomplishments on the campus plan included extension of the oval to accommodate an international-sized hockey field, underground parking to improve traffic flow on campus and hard-courts for Physical and Health Education and co-curricular sports.

"The developments to date were realised as a result of innovative planning and prudent financial management by the College. Funding provided to MLC under the Building the Education Revolution program will complement the College's ongoing fundraising campaign, *Partnering for their Future*, which will be relied on to continue to fund future campus developments at the College, including the Health and Sports Centre."

The Chair of Council said the Centre was designed with the health and wellbeing of students and the MLC community in mind. Environmental conditions had been considered and the facility would incorporate a combination of natural ventilation and air-conditioning, and the use of gas energy.

"The MLC students, teachers and community will benefit greatly from the new Health and Sports Centre which will incorporate national-standard indoor courts for basketball, netball, volleyball and badminton with spectator facilities, separate fitness training areas for weight training and rowing, a flexible-use group fitness room, change rooms for up to 70 students at once, as well as storage areas for Physical and Outdoor Education equipment, and staff offices," she said.



“The College’s commitment to maintain an open green-belt space on the campus border with Stirling Highway led to the split-level facility being set low on the MLC site, on the existing grass playing fields.”

Emeritus Professor Lesley Parker said further campus developments proposed in the campus development plan encompassed construction of a new Junior School featuring natural, open places for girls to learn, refurbishment of Senior School buildings, and the creation of more open ‘green’ spaces to provide recreational and leisure areas for the girls. Completion of the plan would be marked by an Olympic-sized swimming pool built adjacent to the Health and Sports Centre.

She said progress on these developments would rely heavily on fundraising by the College.

Building of the Health and Sports Centre would commence as soon as possible, as required by the Building the Education Revolution program.

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