Work begins on new $8.5 million school for South West Sydney

The Minister for Education and Training, Verity Firth, today joined the Member for Wollondilly, Phil Costa, to turn the first sod on the site of the new $8.5 million Bingara Gorge Public School.

Ms Firth said when complete the school will cater for the more than 3,000 residents expected in the new Bingara Gorge community.

“Bingara Gorge Public is expected to be ready for students and staff by the 2011 school year.

“The school will be a modern facility able to accommodate up to 400 students in Kindergarten to Year 6.

The new school will include:

- six permanent classrooms;
- a library;
- a special programs room;
- a hall;
- a canteen;
- a covered outdoor learning area;
- an administration building;
- toilets;
- a free play area;
- a games court; and
- a staff car park, bus set down area, and parent pick up and drop off zone.

Mr Costa said the school would make a welcome addition to the community.

“This school is a great outcome for the people of Wilton who have been fighting for a school for decades," Mr Costa said.

“Now kids from Wilton can go to school locally, rather than travel to Picton each day.

“A school is the soul of the community – and I’m proud our community came together to make sure this school became a reality.

“We are all really happy to see construction begin on a brand new school for Wilton that I’m sure will go on to become a vital part of the community and a valuable place for kids to grow and learn.

“This modern building has all the trimmings - the school have been designed so they face north to maximise comfort for staff and students, and increase energy efficiency.

“The school has been specially designed to maximise natural light and ventilation.”
Edwards Constructions of Batemans Bay were awarded the contract to build the new school in June 2010.

Ms Firth said the Keneally Government is working hard to provide students and teachers with the best facilities possible.

“NSW public schools will receive $1.9 billion for upgrades and $270 million for maintenance this year through Commonwealth and State funding,” she said.

“The NSW Government is spending more than $2 billion over four years to deliver the largest state-funded public education and training capital works program ever undertaken in NSW.”