

# LEARNING *in my Community*



## New name reflects single learning organisation

By **ANDY BENNETT**

AFTER extensive consultation and a survey of our school communities a recommendation was made to the Minister for Education to create a new name for the federation.

It will now be called the Jordan River Learning Federation.

This is an important step as Gagebrook, Herdsman's Cove and East Derwent Primary and the new middle and senior schools on the

Bridgewater campus are now formally linked as a single learning organisation.

The Child and Family Centre (CFC) will be an integral component of the Jordan River Learning Federation.

Its purpose will be to improve health and wellbeing, education and care for our youngest children.

Our aim is to provide increased support for parents and to simplify and improve access to services in the local community.

The Bridgewater CFC is one of 18 centres being built around the state and is funded by the Federal Government under the National Partnership Agreement for Indigenous Early Childhood Development.

The CFC will be a place where early years services come together.

For example, parents and children may visit the CFC for a regular health assessment then join other families for a music and movement

session before the children are looked after in the short-term care area while the parents participate in a meeting, function or training session on site.

There has been a wide range of meetings and consultation sessions with various local early years service providers and parents over the past 12 months.

A lot of information and ideas have been gathered and important decisions made including:

- The CFC will be built on land behind the Brighton Civic Centre.

- A 'hub and spoke' model will be developed that sees programs and services delivered not only at the CFC but also at various sites around the community.

Our aim is to increase accessibility and to build on and complement the excellent work already done around the community.

Building program:

- The new gymnasium

will open for student use on October 11.

- Stage 1 of the middle school will be completed on October 11.

- The Trade Training Centre is scheduled to be ready for occupation on October 20.

- Stage 1 of the work at Gagebrook has been completed and the new office and reception area, teacher resource room and a new classroom are being used by staff, parents and students.



*\*Andy Bennett is the manager of the Jordan River Learning Federation*