Building the Education Revolution
Come in and pull up a chair...

Classroom furniture was once primarily thought of as a convenient place for students to store their unwanted chewing gum. Today, furniture and equipment is an integral part of a 21st century flexible learning environment.

To help inform schools about the variety of options available the Department invited furniture and equipment suppliers to showcase how their products function in a modern setting.

Twelve furniture and equipment expos were held around the state in completed BER facilities. Over 1,400 educators (and one persistent school cat at the Northern Metropolitan expo) took the opportunity to visit one of the expos during July and August.

The information gathered at the expos was a starting point for discussions within school communities about what furniture and equipment is needed to facilitate teaching and learning in their BER building.

“It’s good to try before you buy” said Jan Marinakos, Principal at Chirnside Park Primary School. “Today is just the starting point. It is a big investment so it is vital to have teachers’ input into the furniture and equipment purchased.”

Seeing the furniture in a completed BER facility was also useful to many. “It re-aligns your thinking on what you will use each space for and seeing the furniture in the building helps put it all into context,” said Tanya Cooke, Menzies Creek Primary School Principal.

Information to assist schools:

- Schools can search through a list of registered furniture and equipment suppliers via the Industry Capability Network at [www.regionalindustrylink.com.au](http://www.regionalindustrylink.com.au)

- A printable brochure of all participating suppliers (PDF - 325Kb) involved in the furniture and equipment expos is also available for schools.

- For more information and resources to assist schools making purchasing decisions, see [furniture and equipment](http://www.regionalindustrylink.com.au).

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