Laying foundations: Year 5 students Summah Round, Charlotte Seal, Aiden Chaston, Blake Wilson and Abbie Grettin. Picture: Rodney Braithwaite

Handy new shed

EVERY KID NEEDS A SHED

By Liz Mellino

Shepparton's Bourchier St Primary School students will soon be able to enjoy a purposebuilt children's shed.

Situated on the school's oval, the shed will be a place for students to engage in hands-on learning, offering an alternative to the classbased curriculum.

Bourchier St physical education teacher Paul White said senior students would be able to enjoy the facilities throughout the school week.

"Those kids that aren't getting the results in the classroom can come out here and have a different hands-on learning approach," he said.

"We have tried the idea before but we were only half doing it, so we thought let's do it properly and set up an area the kids can have as a space of their own."

Mr White said the school was implementing a program called Hands On Learning, which had been running in secondary schools for about 20 years.

The program offers hundreds of projects for students, providing instructions and materials to complete tasks and build things to benefit the school and students.

Mr White said the shed could not have been completed without help from Telfords Building Systems, Mawsons Concrete, and Good Lay Concrete, and thanked them for their help in getting the project up and running.

"It couldn't have happened without all of them . . . and we can't thank them enough," he said.

"The students will be able to come down here because maybe they're a little bit disengaged and they'll have time in the project which will help to get them back into the classroom.

"It might be a day a week that the kids have out of the classroom and they do everything together, from cooking meals and eating together...we're really looking forward to it."