Darwin architecture firm Jackman Gooden has been awarded a $200,000 contract for the design and documentation of the more than $7 million redevelopment of Darwin High School.

Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said the major component of the redevelopment was the construction of science laboratories and home economics facilities.

Other works will include the construction of walkways to Block A in readiness for future planned work on that block; the relocation of the Intensive English faculty and removal of an old demountable.

“It is fantastic to see a local firm getting the contract for this important job which will significantly change the face of one of the Territory's largest – and oldest – secondary schools,” Mr Stirling said.

“The school is close to capacity with its enrolment numbers, while some of the facilities are outdated and below acceptable standards.

“This redevelopment will help to ensure that students and teachers are able to learn and teach in the best possible environment.”

Mr Stirling said tenders for a Managing Contractor for the project had been called, with a closing date of June 30.

Construction is expected to begin in around October and completed in 2005.