

much as they do here, which is good because it makes you try to do better."

■ Adamya Tawari, 17, from

Guests celebrate at official opening of £8m facilities

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Students at Ormiston Venture Academy in east Norfolk have marked the official opening of their new £8m facilities with rousing speeches and tours of the brand new school buildings.

The new school buildings in Gorleston have been in use since term started last September, but were declared open yesterday as invited guests, governors and pupils gathered on the school lawn for a VIP ceremony.

Former pupil Callum Cooke, a Gresham's scholar who is now studying fine art at Oxford University, cut the ribbon and said: "As someone who went to the school when it was Oriol and Ormiston, I just want to say how much it deserves a building like this so it can carry on with the hard work it's always done."

The school, part of the Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) network, opened on the site of Oriol High in 2010. Yesterday, chairman of governors Lesley King said: "I remember when the old buildings were first built it was an exciting investment in a technical high school for Yarmouth. Now we get to see them transformed



■ Students celebrate the official opening of the recently completed new build at Ormiston Venture Academy in Gorleston.

Picture: NICK BUTCHER

for education in the 21st century.

"Some people say that new buildings are a waste of time and a waste of money because what's important about a school is the people inside.

"In some ways, Ormiston Venture Academy has proved that to be the case; in old fashioned buildings that weren't fit for purpose they improved

the school and turned it into one of the best in the country.

"But what we have now are buildings that the students and staff deserve."

Professor Toby Salt, chief executive officer of OAT, said: "Ormiston Venture is our most outstanding and special academy."