



**Showing affection:** Rosmah lightly pinching the cheek of one of the participants of the Permata Insan holiday camp at SM Sains Banting.

# Permata secondary school in Nilai to be ready by 2015

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**BANTING:** Permata Negara is set to add a secondary school aimed at producing future Islamic scholars into its fold.

Its patron Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor said the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) had approved funds to establish a boarding school for the participants of Permata Insan – an Islamic education programme for smart children developed by Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (Usim).

“It has been my wish to build a secondary school for participants of the Permata Insan programme so they can continue their studies there.

“It is important for the children to have continuity in what they have learnt,” said the Prime Minister’s wife during a visit to the Permata Insan holiday camp at SM Sains Banting here yesterday.

Permata Insan coordinator Dr Mohd Rushdan Mohd Jailani said the school would be located in the Usim campus at Nilai, and was expected to be completed within two years.



“Usim will be developing the school syllabus next year. It will be similar to normal schools but with additional emphasis on the understanding of the Quran, the Sunnah and science,” he said.

The university is targeting the school to kick-off in 2015 when the first batch of the Permata Insan programme participants, who are currently Primary Four students, turn 13.

The Permata Insan programme is for selected children aged between eight and 12.

They join the programme at the age of eight and are chosen based on their IQ levels and knowledge of the Quran and Islam.

Since it began in 2010, 127 children have enrolled, with 47 pupils registering this year alone.

The children attend a two-week holiday camp, administered by Usim and assisted by the Education Ministry, at the end of each year.