

FIT5032 - Internet Applications Development

WEEK 03 - PRE-WEEK 04 DATABASE FIRST DEVELOPMENT (ENTITY FRAMEWORK)

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Housekeeping

Before we begin, it is highly recommended for you to use your own personal computer for this subject. If you are planning to use the Monash computers, it is highly recommended to save all your work properly. Towards, the end of the semester, there will be a portfolio submission where you need to showcase all the work you have done so far. To prevent difficulties during this portfolio submission, it is suggested that you keep all your work neat and organised based on a **week by week structure**.

Tutorial Structure

The tutorials in this unit are designed to be of a **self-paced and self-taught structure**. So, the aim of your tutor is to aid you in your learning experience. He or she will not go through all the materials that are covered in the labs and will **not do the exercise one by one as a class**. If help is needed, you can either post on the Moodle forums or you can email your tutor asking for clarification. This is slightly different in comparison to other units, where your tutor will lead the discussions. **Please take note of this, you will only be provided help if you make it known that you need help.**

Objectives

Estimated Time To Complete - 1 hours

Upon the completion of this tutorial, you will gain a basic understanding of

- Database First Approach

DoubtFire Submission

- No Submissions, See Week 4 for submissions

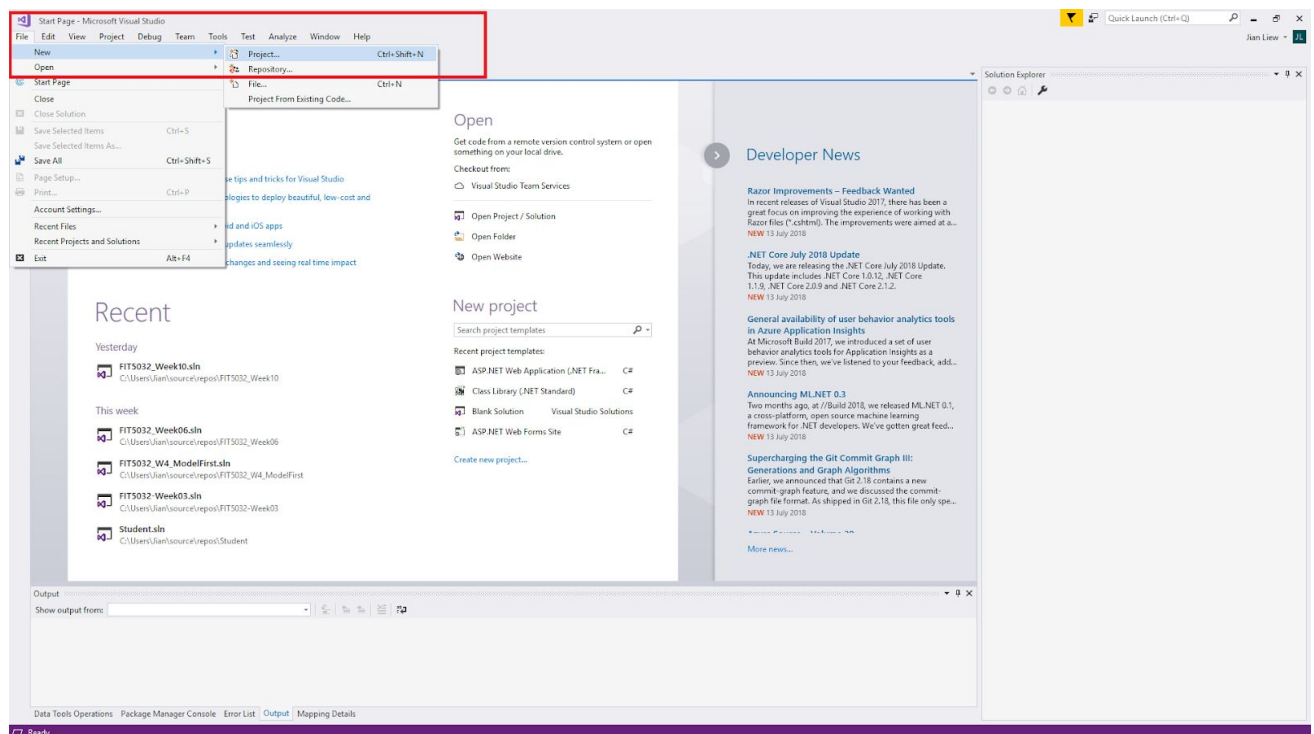
The Database First Approach

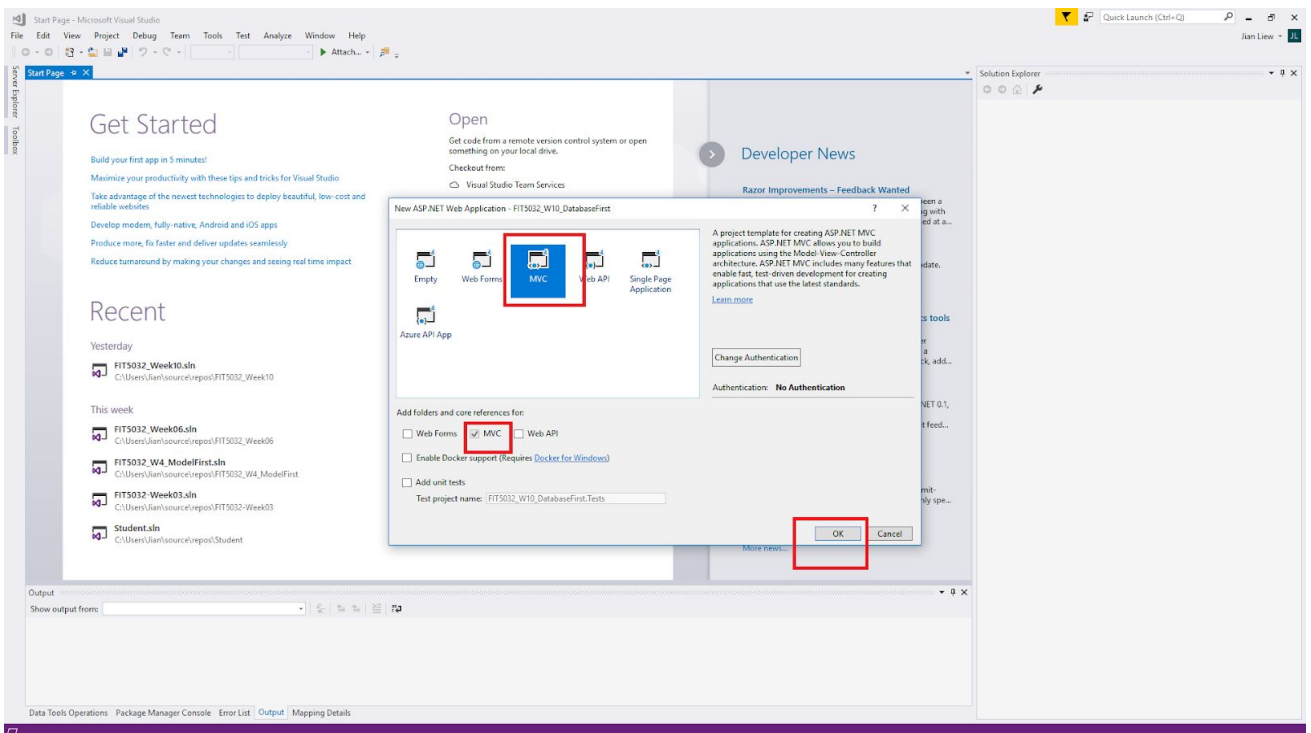
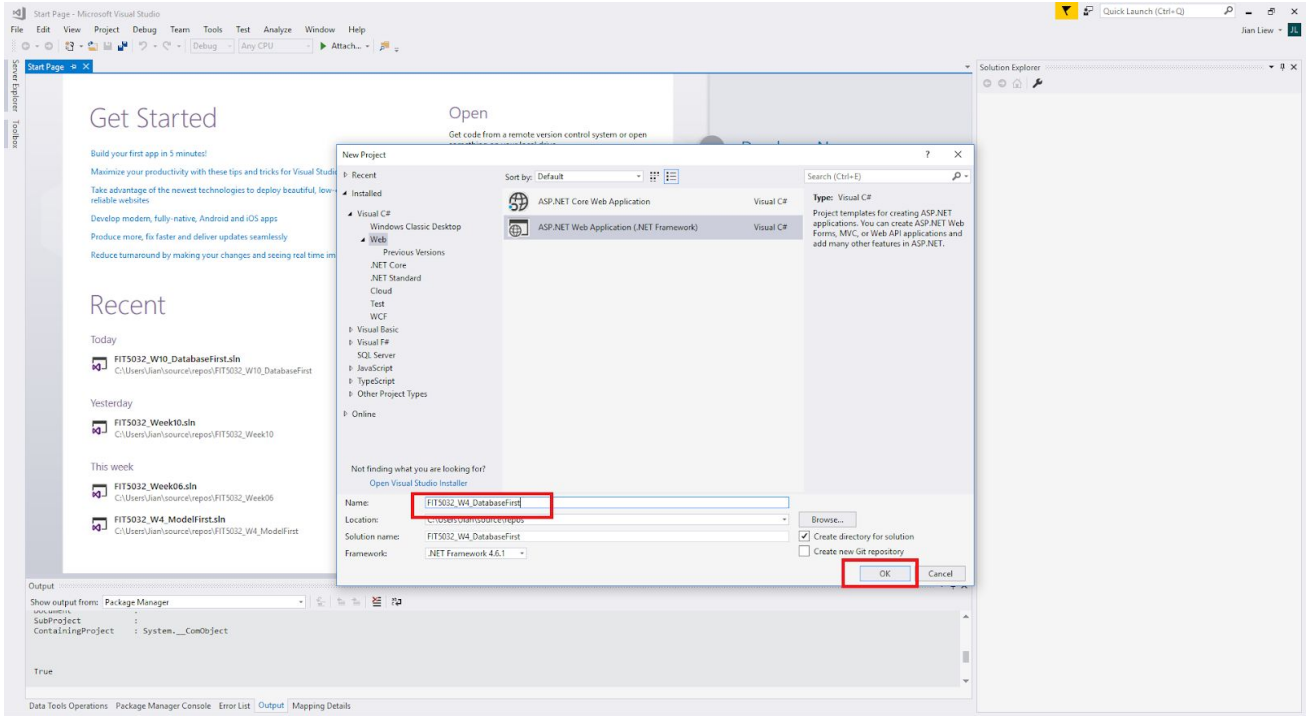
The database first approach involves writing Data Definition Language DDL first. So, you will need to use your knowledge of SQL. This is a common approach if there is an existing database design. Some developers that have an in depth knowledge in SQL prefer this way. This is one of the more common approaches as it is perceived to be easier.

Please remember that every database syntax is slightly different. Even though SQL follows an ISO standard there are syntax which are database specific.

Step 1

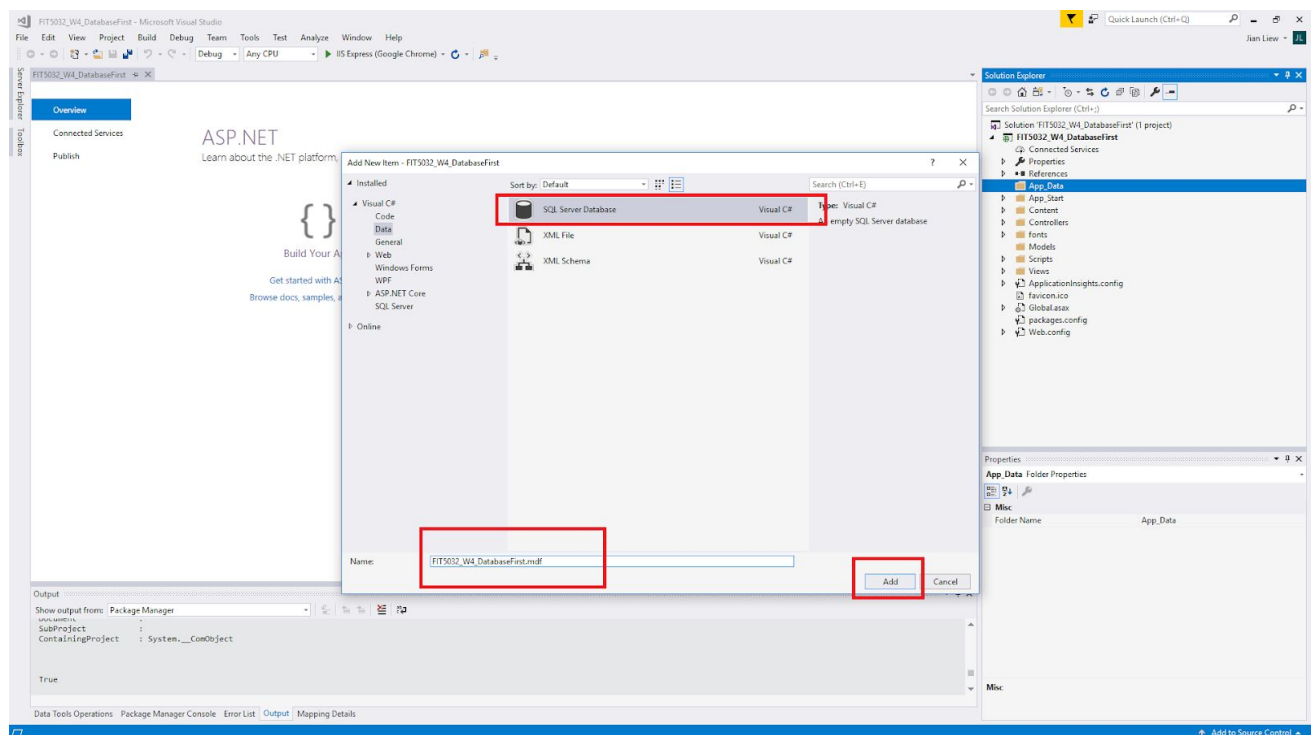
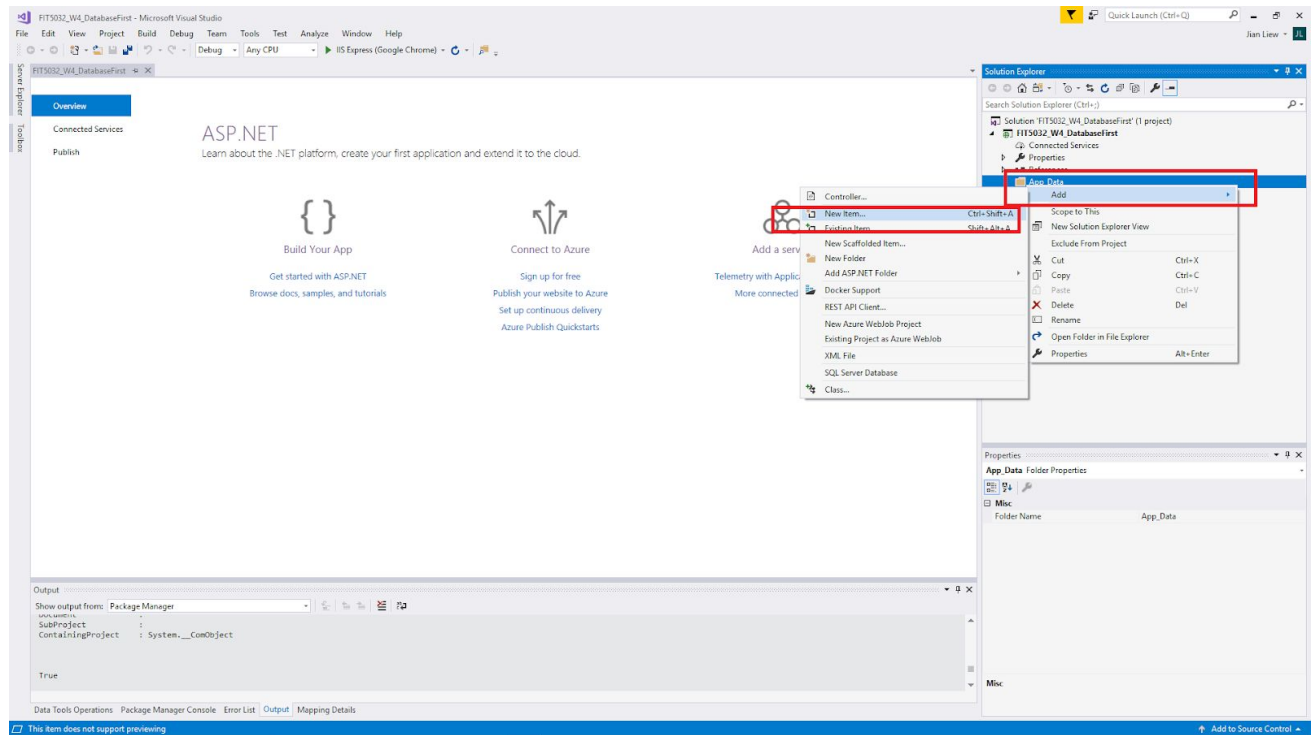
I will create a new project to demonstrate the database first approach.





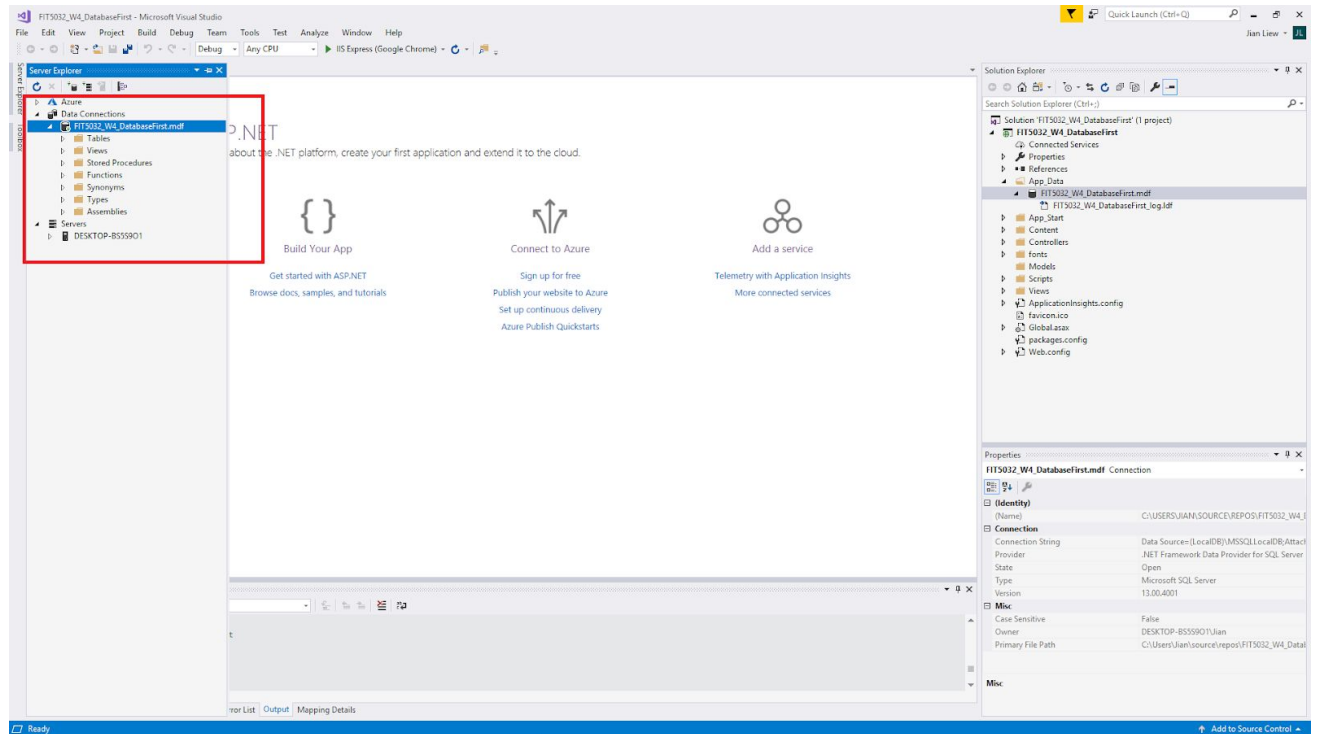
Step 2

Right click App_Data and Select "New Item"

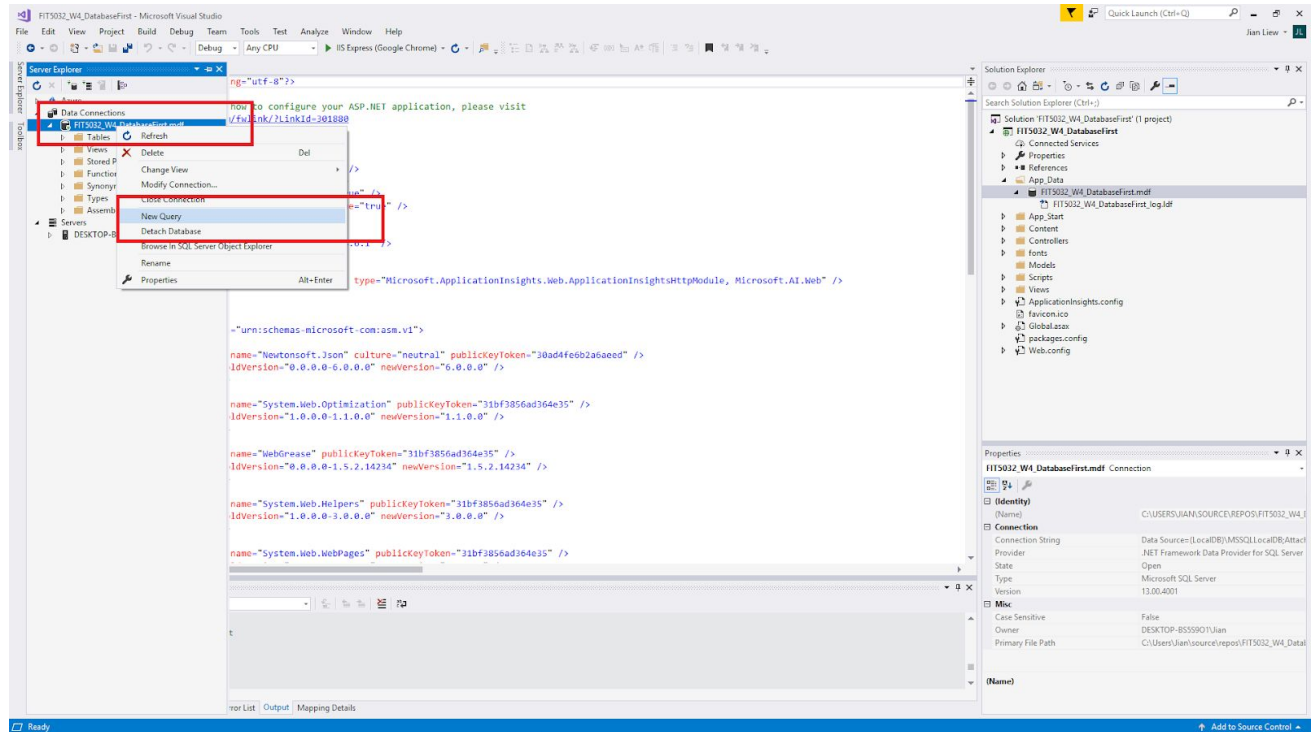


Step 3

You should see that the database first is created under the App_Data folder. Double click on it to open it.



You can then run SQL queries on this database.

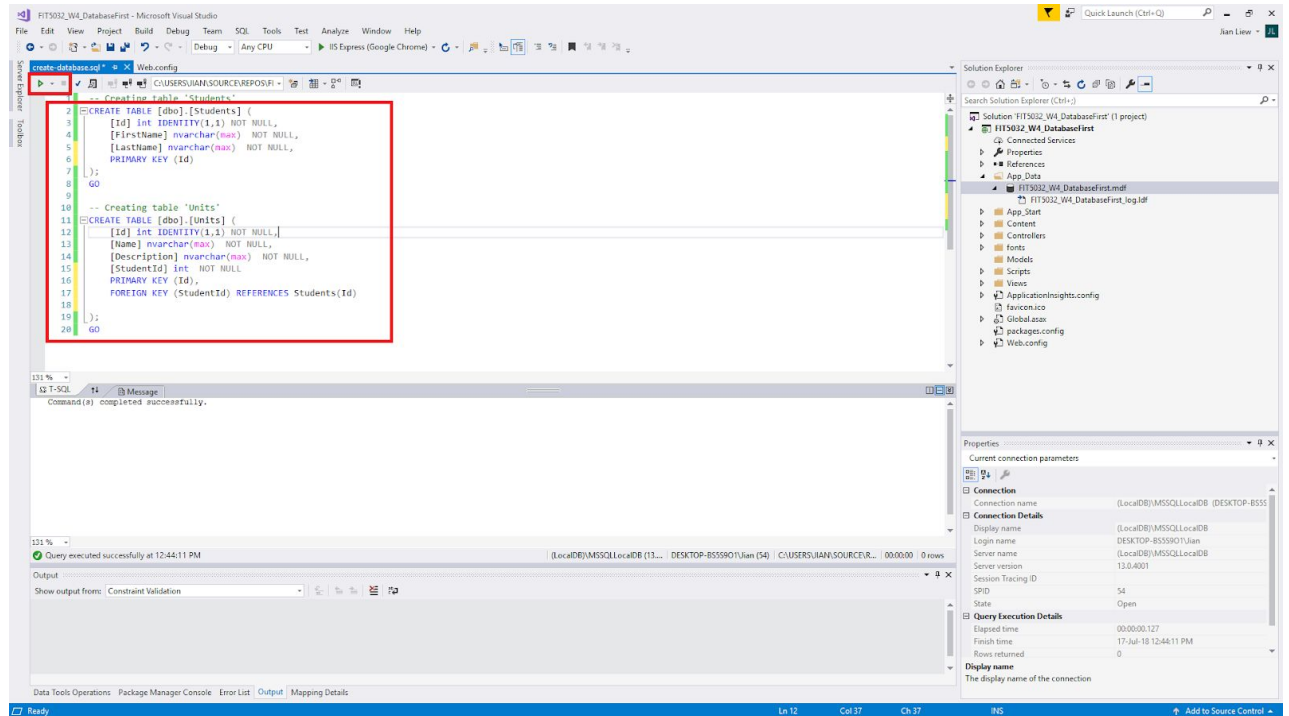


Step 4

The SQL needed to generate the tables are provided here.

```
-- Creating table 'Students'
CREATE TABLE [dbo].[Students] (
    [Id] int IDENTITY(1,1) NOT NULL,
    [FirstName] nvarchar(max) NOT NULL,
    [LastName] nvarchar(max) NOT NULL,
    PRIMARY KEY (Id)
);
GO

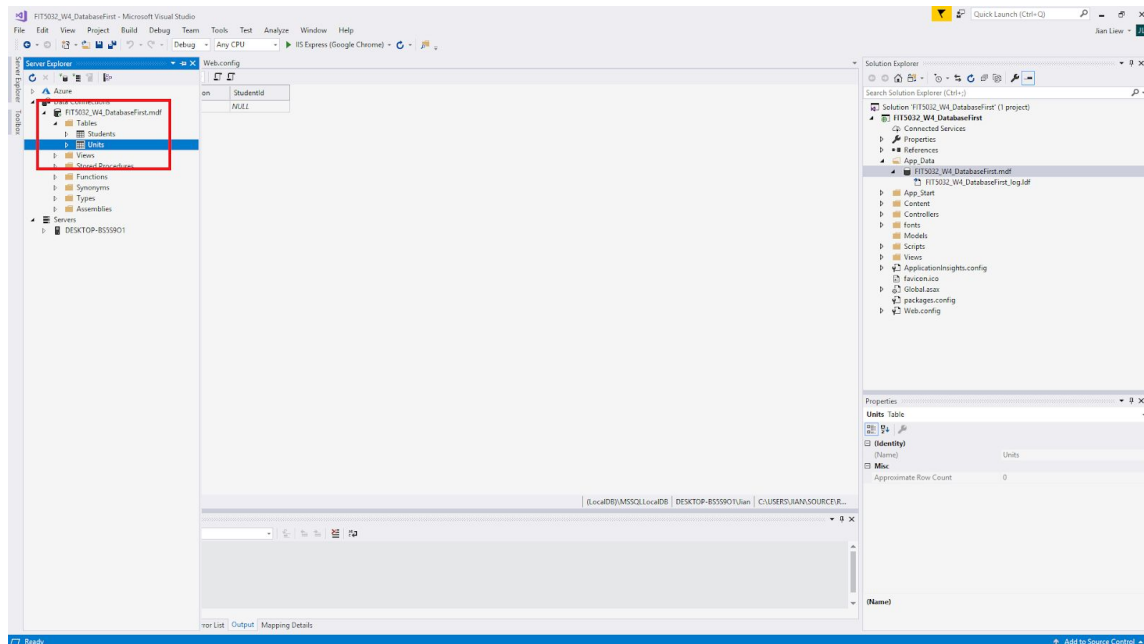
-- Creating table 'Units'
CREATE TABLE [dbo].[Units] (
    [Id] int IDENTITY(1,1) NOT NULL,
    [Name] nvarchar(max) NOT NULL,
    [Description] nvarchar(max) NOT NULL,
    [StudentId] int NOT NULL
    PRIMARY KEY (Id),
    FOREIGN KEY (StudentId) REFERENCES Students(Id)
);
GO
```



How do you think the nvarchar data type differs in comparison to the varchar? Also what do you think is the difference between a Primary Key and an Identity?

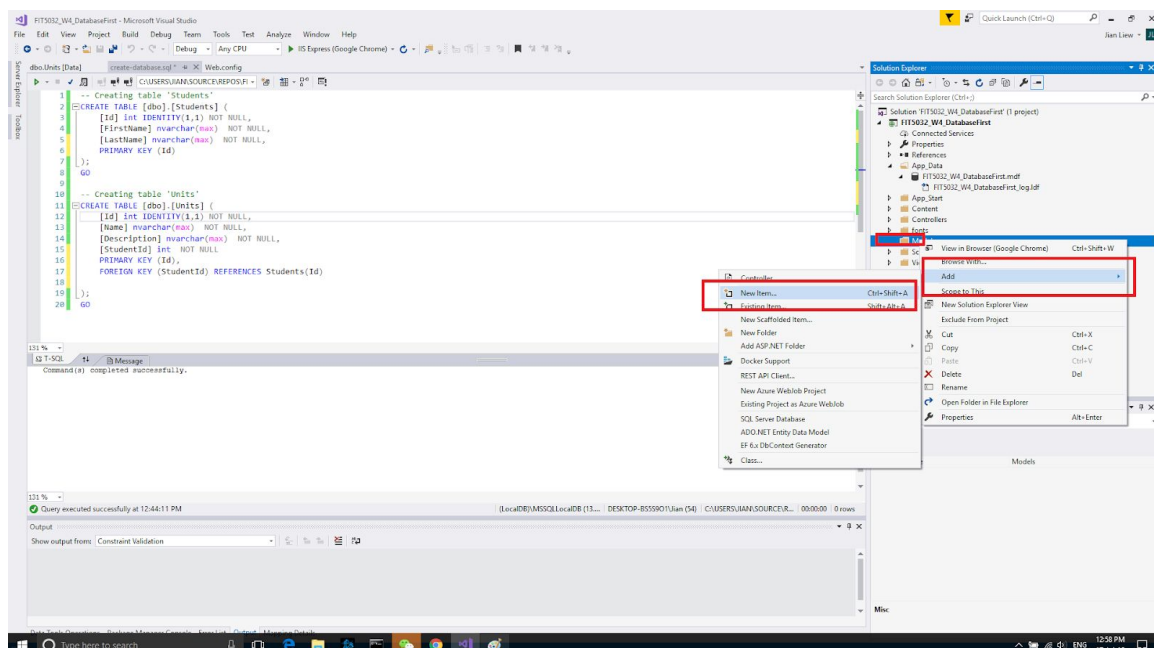
Step 5

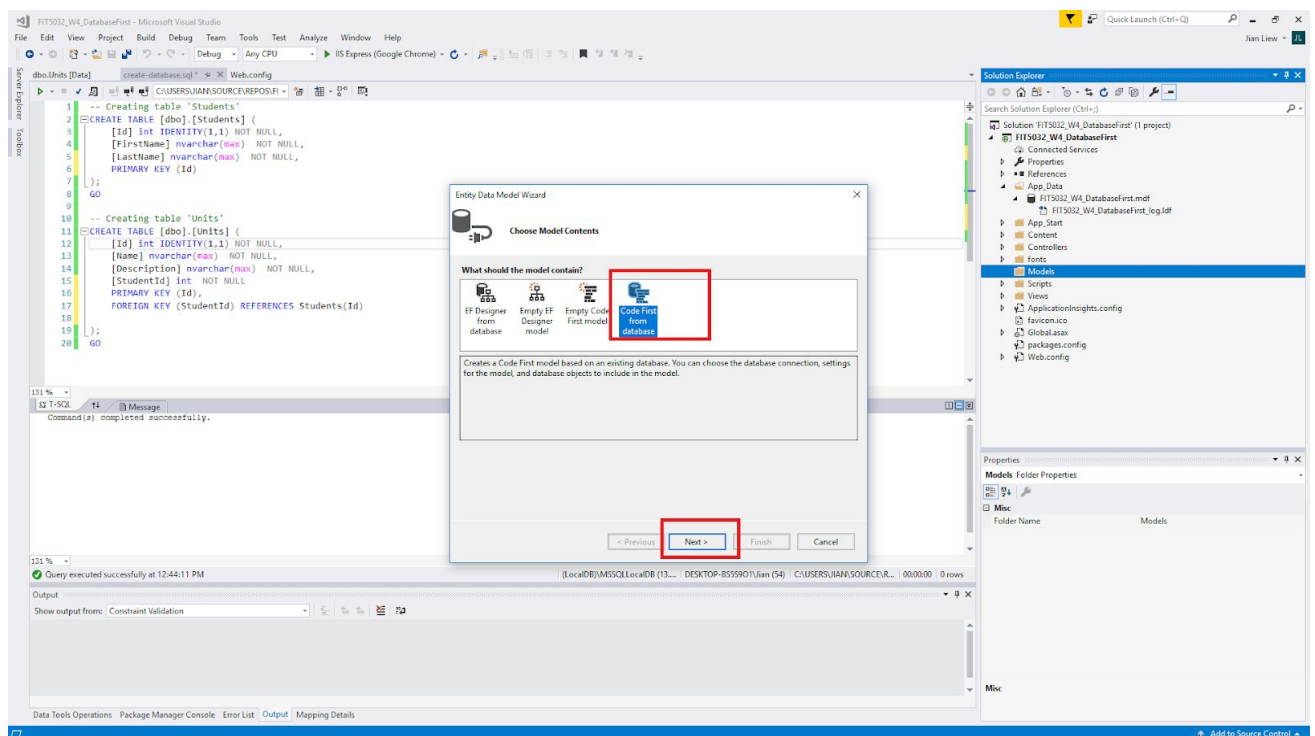
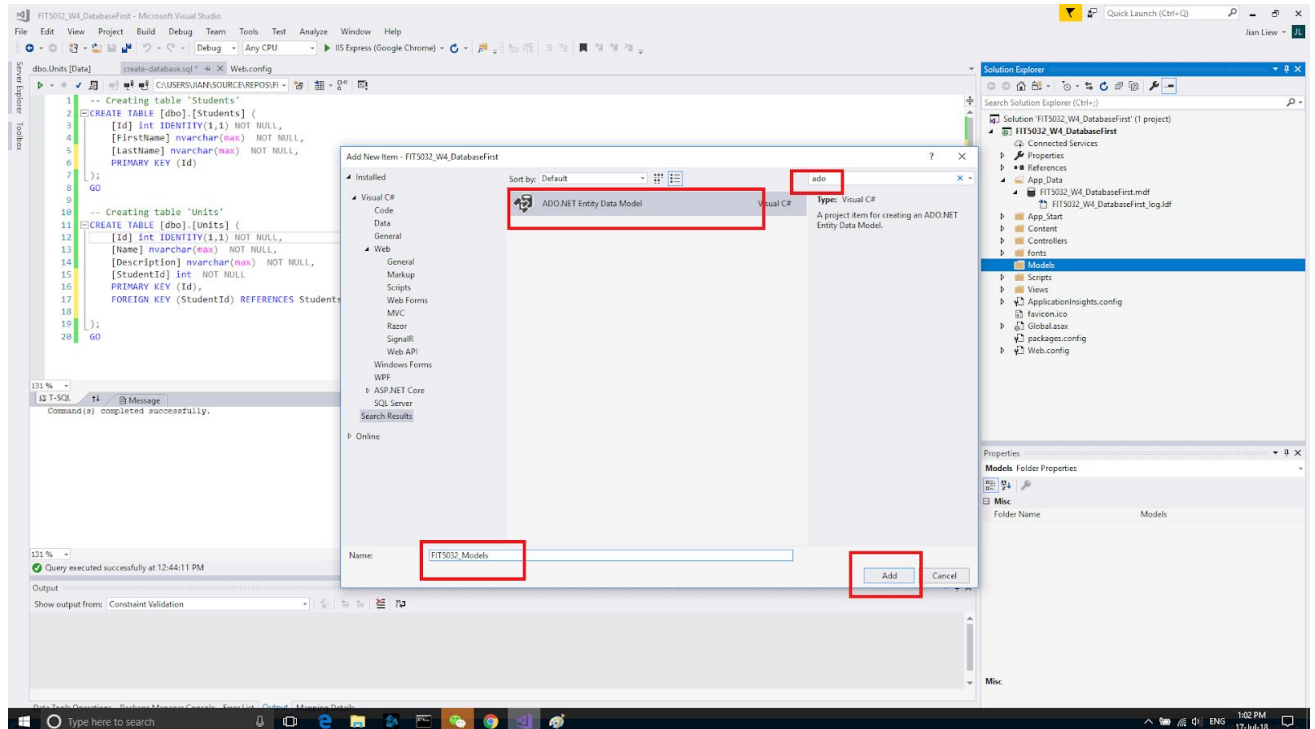
You can now see that the tables are created.



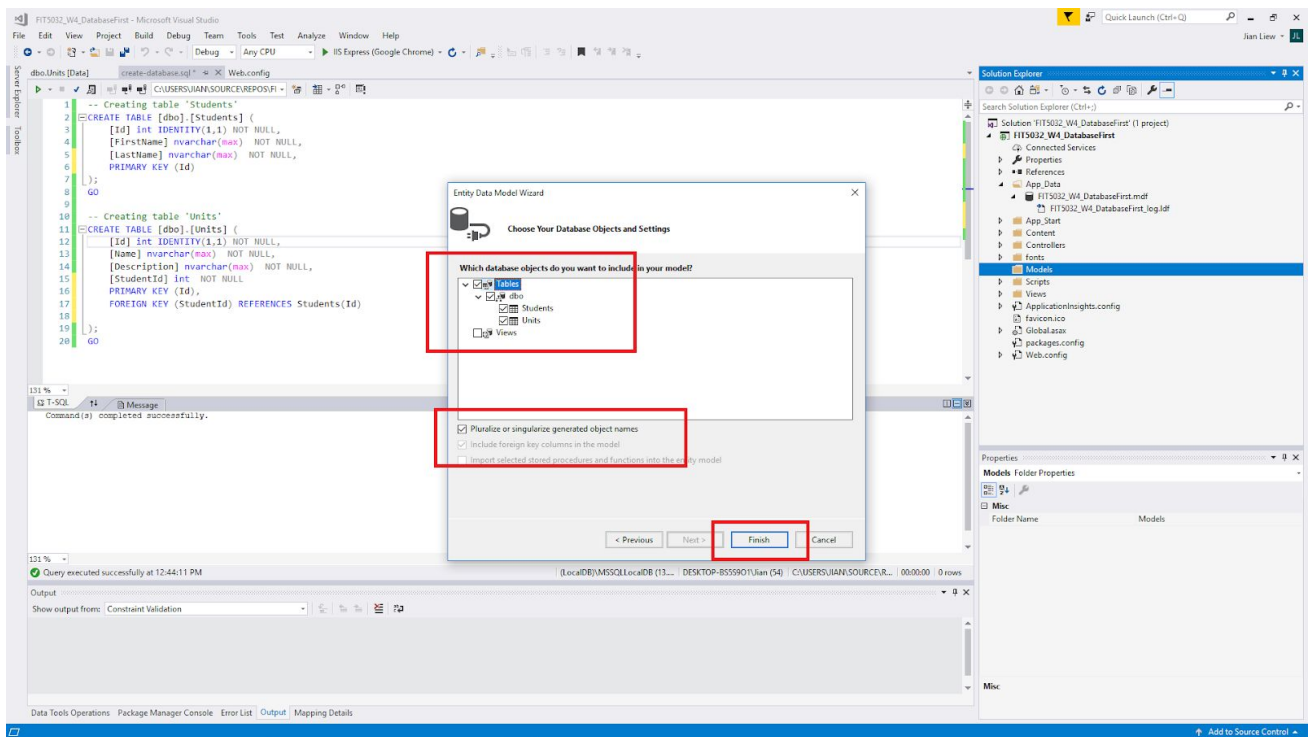
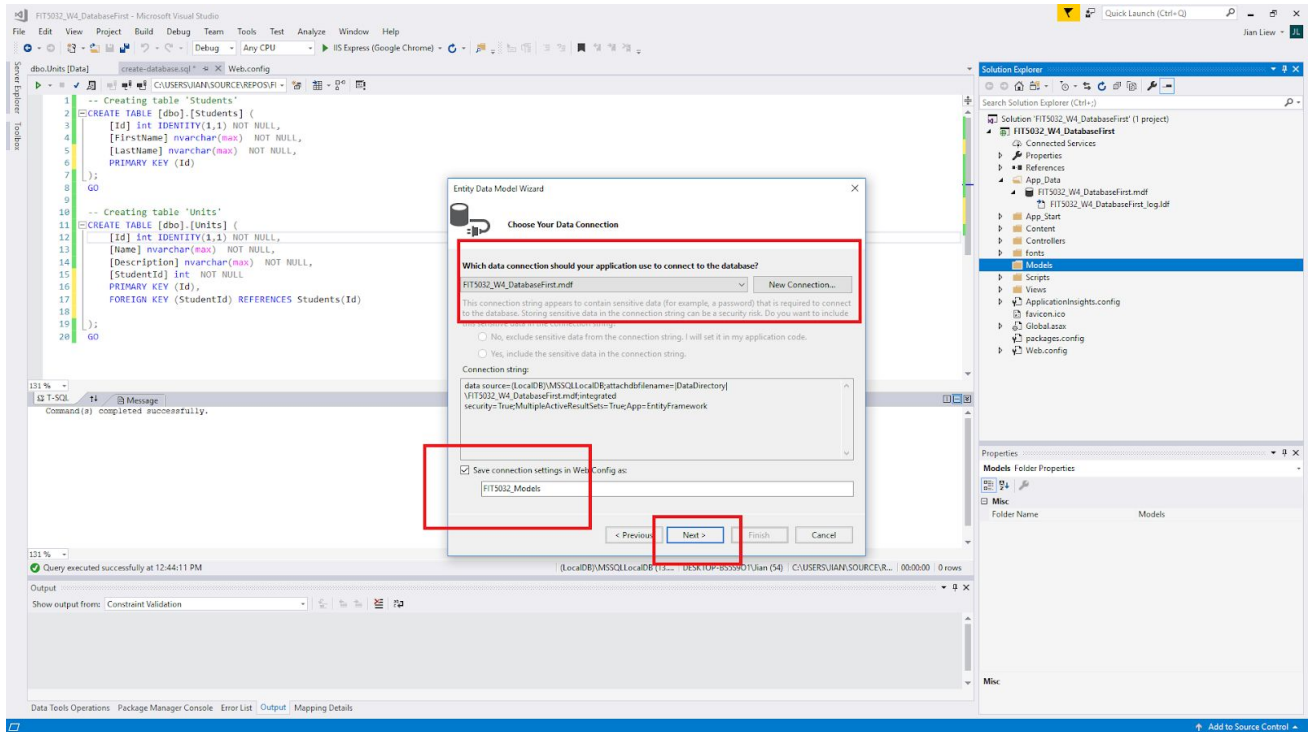
Step 6

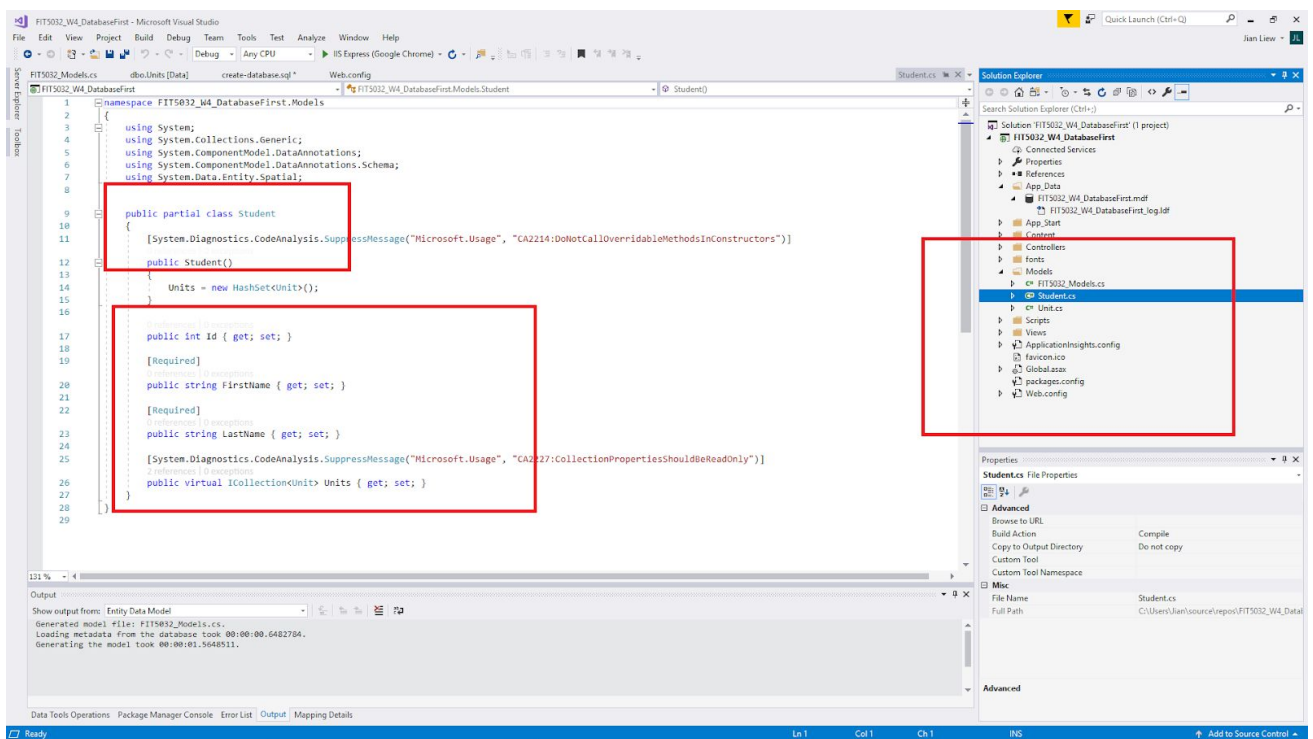
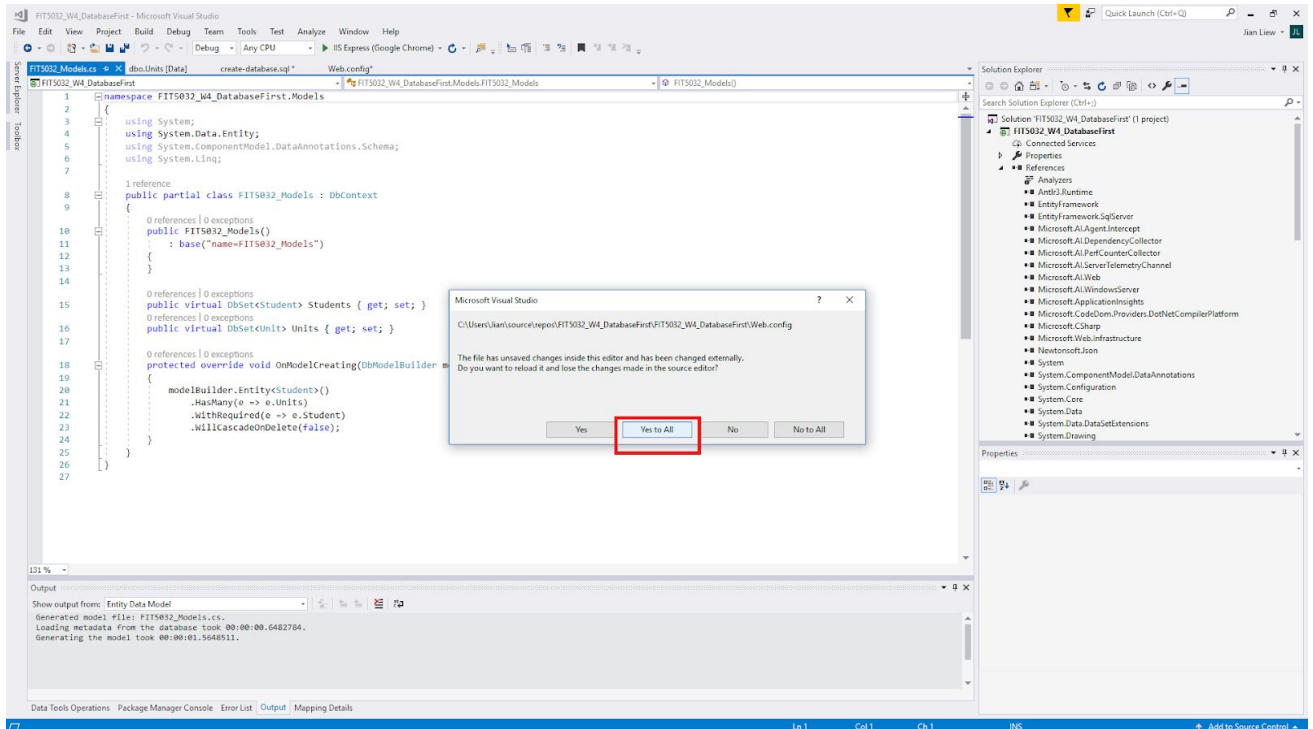
We will now generate the models from the database which has been created. Right click model and add then add a "New Item"





This option means that, it will create a code first approach from the database itself. This approach is generally much cleaner.

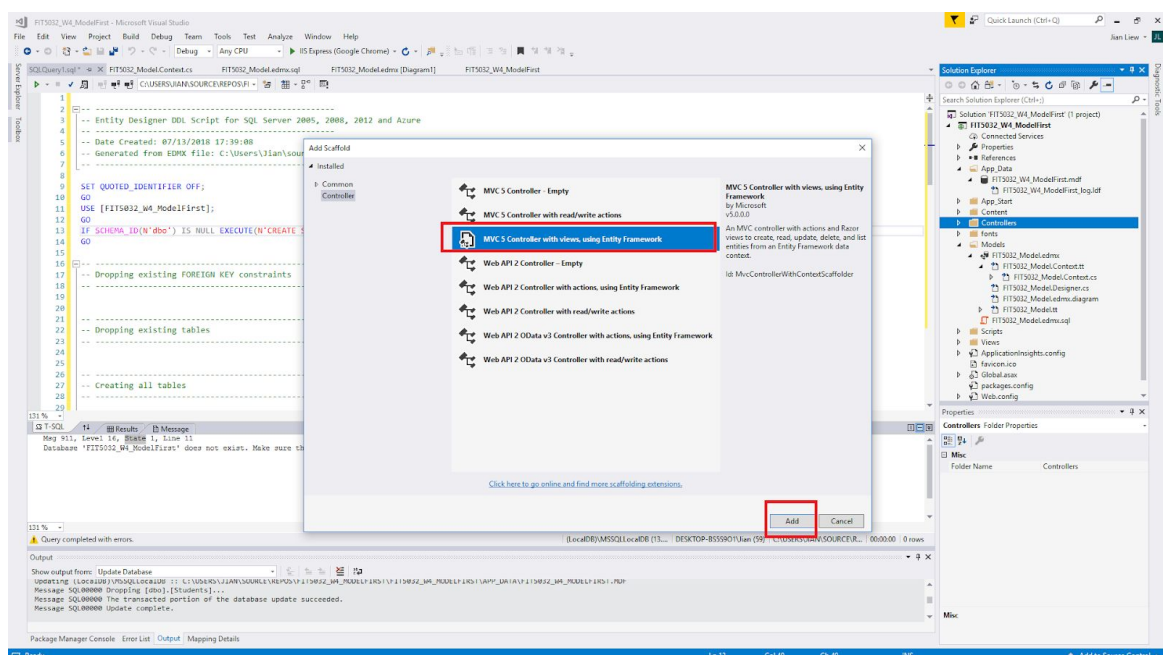
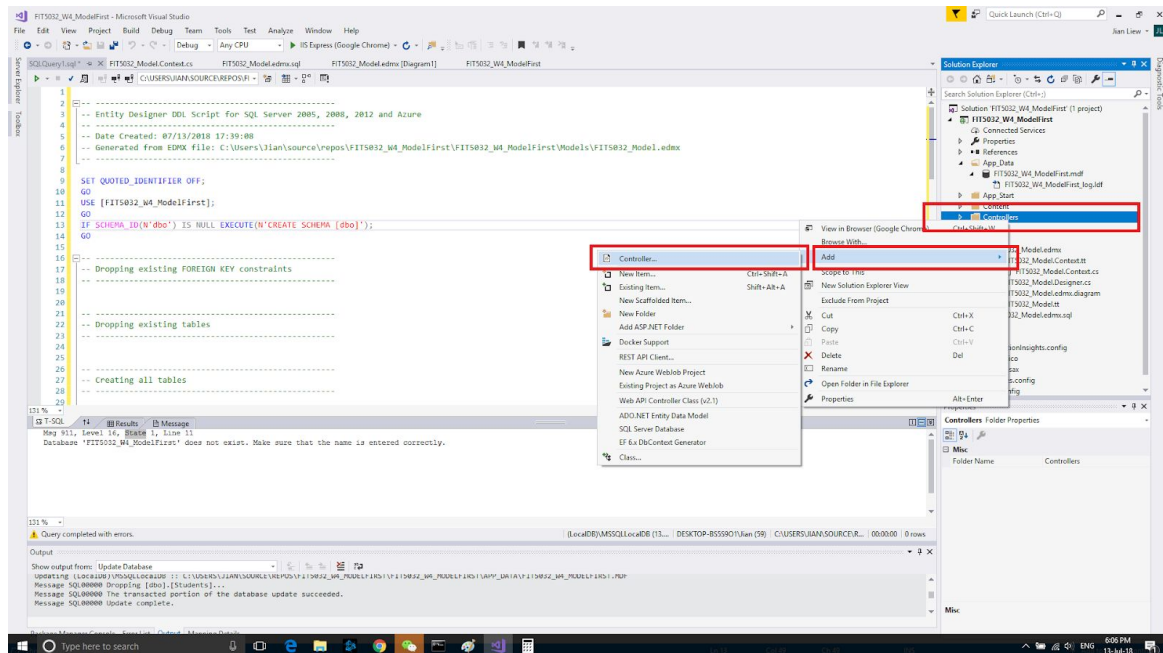


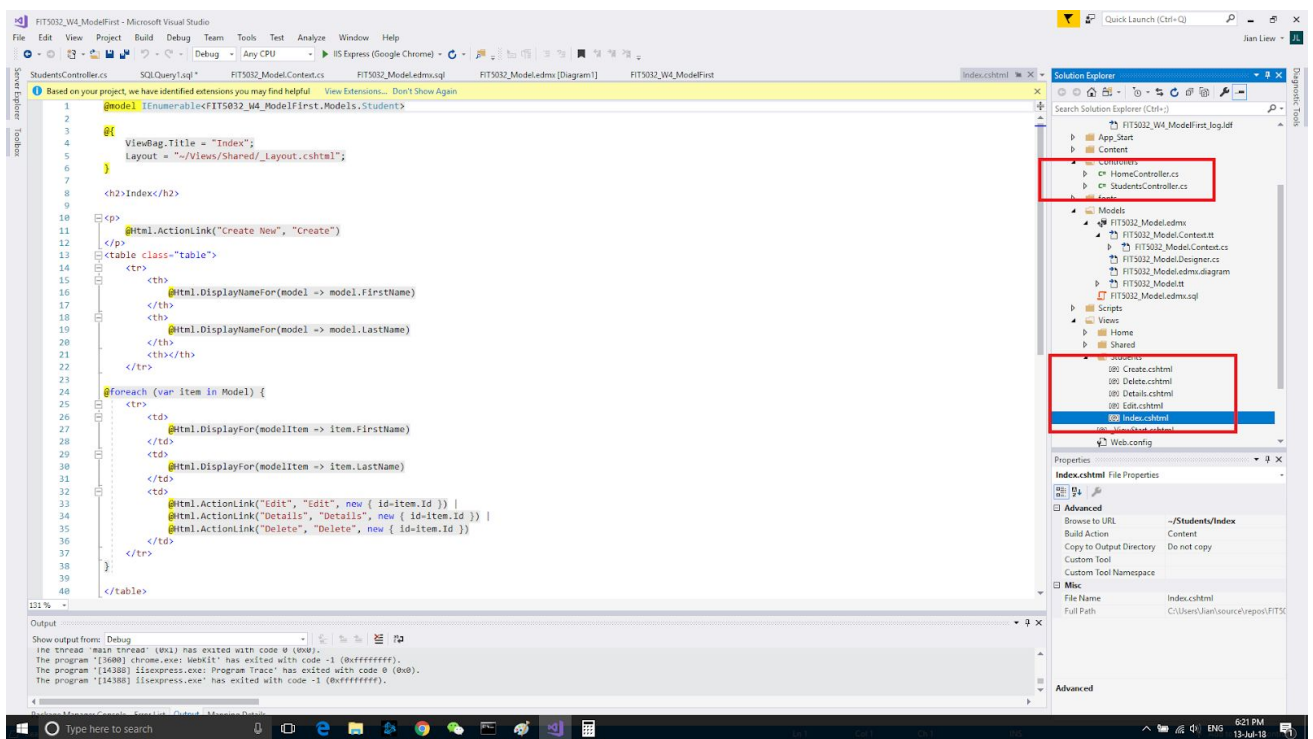
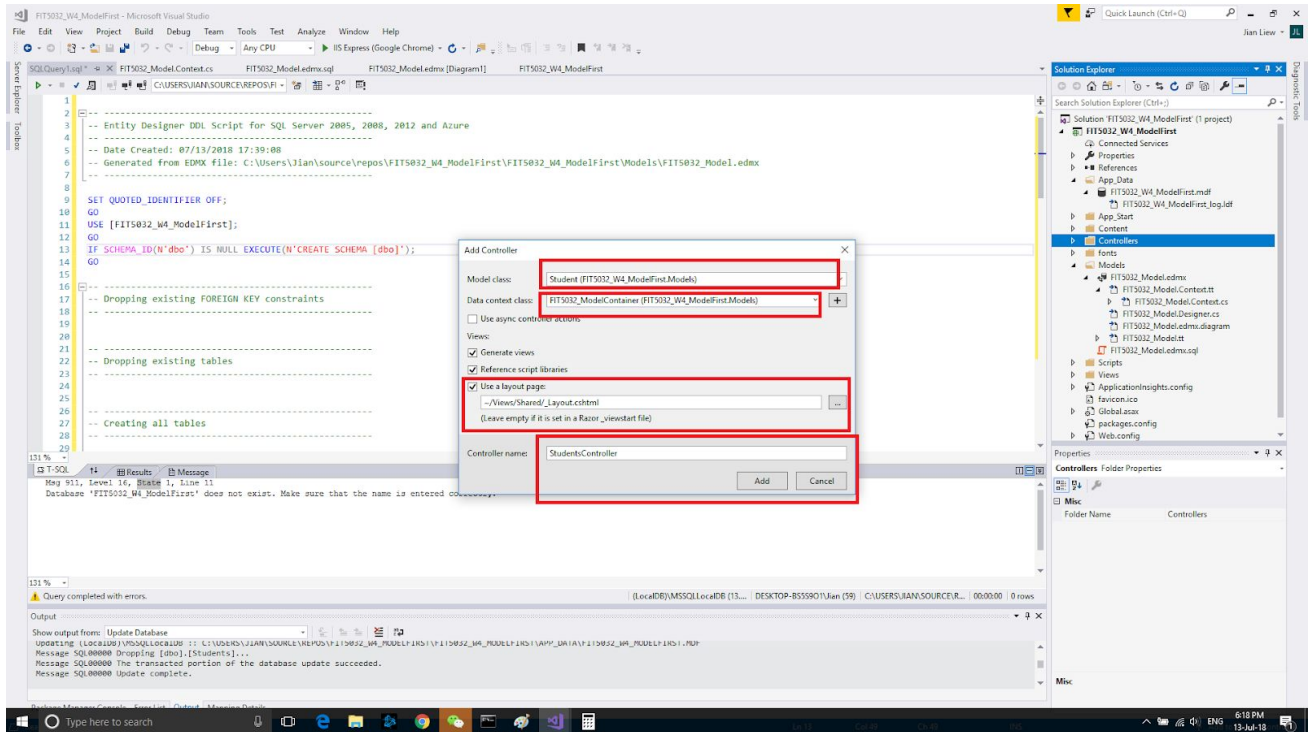


After you have completed this task, you scaffold the controllers to generate the views.

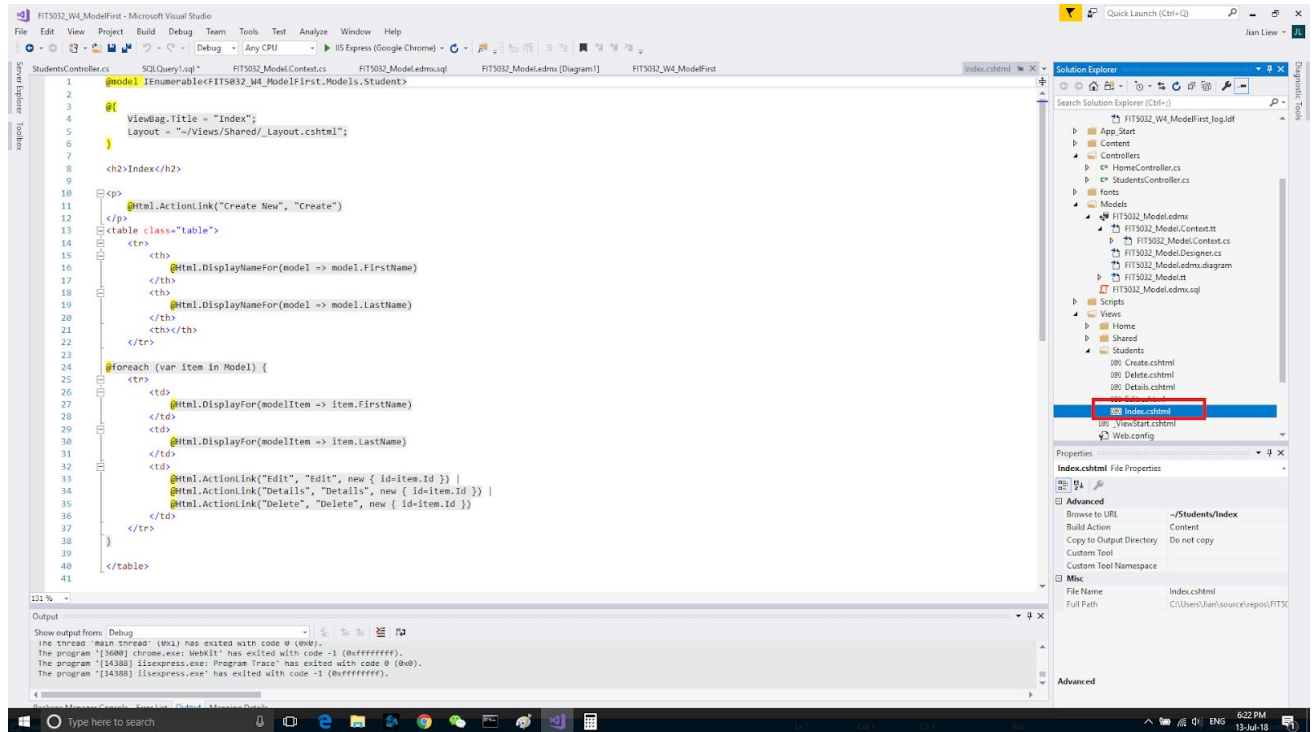
Scaffolding Controllers

One of more interesting features in Visual Studio is that you can automatically generate certain parts of your codes to short cut development. **Please remember to "Rebuild" your project before this. This can be done by selecting the project, right click and rebuild. ASK YOUR TUTOR HOW IF YOU DO NOT KNOW.** At the end of the day, developers like to take shortcuts. **However, this feature is not perfect and should be tested out.**



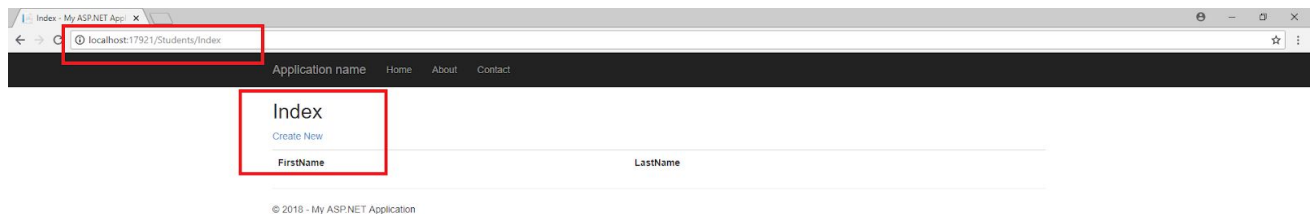


By doing this, Visual Studio is able to automatically generate stub codes for the Student Controller and as well as the Student View.



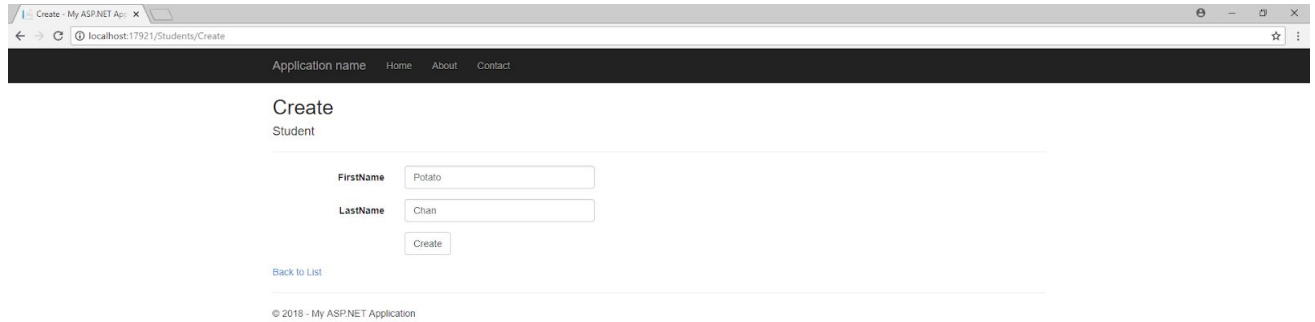
Double Click on the Index.cshtml inside of the Student View.

After that you can hit Run and you will notice that some pages have been created for us.

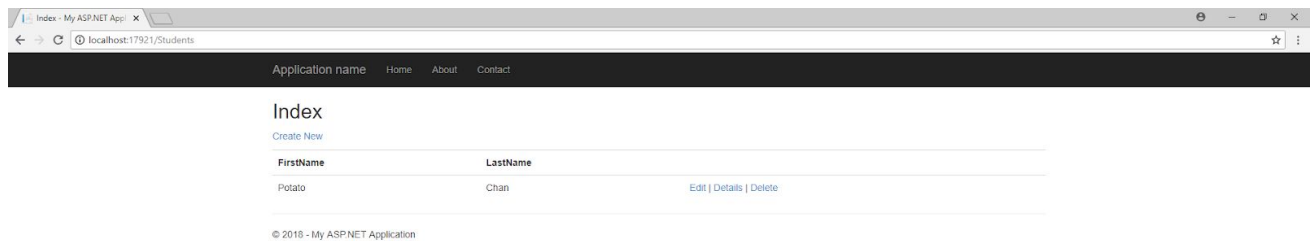


I will then go ahead and try it out.

I will create a student whose First Name is Potato and Last Name is Chan and hit the create button.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'localhost:17921/Students/Create'. The page has a dark header with 'Application name' and links for 'Home', 'About', and 'Contact'. The main content area is titled 'Create Student' and contains two input fields: 'FirstName' with the value 'Potato' and 'LastName' with the value 'Chan'. Below these fields is a 'Create' button. A link 'Back to List' is located below the 'Create' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: '© 2018 - My ASP.NET Application'.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'localhost:17921/Students'. The page has a dark header with 'Application name' and links for 'Home', 'About', and 'Contact'. The main content area is titled 'Index' and includes a link 'Create New'. Below this is a table with two columns: 'FirstName' and 'LastName'. The table contains one row with the values 'Potato' and 'Chan'. To the right of the 'Chan' value are links for 'Edit | Details | Delete'. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: '© 2018 - My ASP.NET Application'.

FirstName	LastName
Potato	Chan

Notice that the student has now been created. In summary, what I can do is, I can automatically create the Controller and Views with minimal coding at best.