

Albury (Thurgoona) new primary school and public preschool

Project update | June 2025

Image caption: Artist impression of the school entry



Investing in our schools

As part of the NSW Government's plan to rebuild public education, the 2025-26 Budget is delivering \$2.1 billion for new and upgraded schools in regional NSW. This targeted investment will ensure growing communities get access to a world class public education.

As part of the NSW Government's commitment to deliver expanded access to early childhood education, planning for this school will include an on-site public preschool.

Project overview

This school will provide essential education infrastructure to accommodate the anticipated increase in enrolments in Thurgoona allowing families to conveniently access educational facilities close to home. The public preschool will be open Day 1 Term 1 2027 and primary school Day 1 Term 1 2028 and will include:



18 new classrooms with shared common areas and multipurpose spaces



a public preschool with capacity for up to 60 children per day



specialist support learning facilities



sports field and multipurpose sports court



library



multipurpose hall and canteen



staff parking



administration facilities



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Progress summary

- A Community Information Session was held on 25 March to share designs with the local community and provide an opportunity for the community to ask questions of the project team.
- The site has been acquired and designs are progressing.
- The construction tender to appoint a building contractor for the project is now open.
- The planning approval pathway for this project is via a Review of Environmental Factors (REF), which assesses the likely impacts of the proposed project. The team are preparing the REF and expect to submit the application shortly.

Next steps

- Submit the REF. Plans will be available for community review once the planning application is on public exhibition.
- Over the coming months we will review tender submissions and award the building contract. The appointed contractor will advance the design of the new building to prepare for construction. More details will be provided about the construction timeline in the coming months.



Frequently asked questions

We have developed frequently asked questions (FAQs) to help you learn more about the new primary school and public preschool. More FAQs can be found on the project webpage at edu.nsw.link/ATPSandPP and will be updated as the project progresses.

What is the size and capacity of the new primary school?

The new school will be built on a large 3-hectare site with open play space, including a full-sized sports field. At opening, the school will be able to accommodate more than 400 primary school students and the preschool will accommodate up to 60 children a day.

Why is the building three storeys?

The school will have a three-storey classroom building which will maximise open playground space within the site. This is in addition to a double-storey administration and library building, and two single-storey buildings for the school hall and co-located public preschool.

Does my child have to change their school if we are in the catchment area of the new school?

No, a child who is already enrolled in a school does not have to move to a new school if they fall into the catchment area of that new school. Once a student is enrolled in a school, they can generally continue attending that school regardless of changes in catchment areas. However, parents and guardians can choose to transfer their child to the new school if they prefer.

Will an Out of School Hours (OOSH) be provided at the new school?

The standard design has provisions for OOSH space in the hall. Further details about OOSH provision will be confirmed once the principal has been appointed. We will communicate further updates with the community closer to the school's opening.

What will happen to the demountable classrooms at other local schools?

We review school accommodation needs each year, looking at changing enrolment patterns and other factors to prepare for the upcoming school year. This helps to identify schools where demountables are no longer needed and can be removed.

How will traffic be managed during drop off and pick up times?

Traffic elements have been planned based on operational requirement for the new school and observations of travel behaviour at other Public Schools. The traffic elements include 3 bay bus stops, kiss & drop bays, short stay spaces, pedestrian and cycle path. These plans will be shared with the community when the project is on public exhibition through the planning approval.

What infrastructure will be provided to support transport and traffic around the school site?

The Department of Education promotes sustainable travel opportunities, and the project includes several measures to support this, including:

- Bus Facilities
- Kiss n Ride; and
- Short-term temporary parking.

Will the new buildings overshadow nearby houses?

No. There are neighbouring properties south of the site with setback of at least 50m. Shadow diagrams prepared confirm no shadowing impact to these properties given the setback distance.

Will there be more opportunities for community engagement on the project?

Yes. The planning approval pathway for this project is via a Review of Environmental Factors (REF), which assesses the likely impacts of the proposed project.

The planning application will be placed on public exhibition in mid 2025, which will give the community an opportunity to look at the plans and provide feedback. We will be providing more information to the community once the REF is on exhibition.

More information

You can find more information about the project at edu.nsw.link/ATPSandPP or by scanning the QR code.

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact School Infrastructure during business hours on the contact details below.



View of the administration building and three-storey classroom building