



New primary school for the Alex Avenue community

Project update

May 2020

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$6.7 billion over four years to deliver more than 190 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. In addition, a record \$1.3 billion is being spent on school maintenance over five years. This is the largest investment in public education infrastructure in the history of NSW.

The NSW Department of Education is committed to delivering new and upgraded schools for communities across NSW. The delivery of these important projects is essential to the future learning needs of our students and supports growth in the local economy.

Project overview

A project is underway to deliver a new primary school on Farmland Drive, Schofields to support the growing community. The school will include:

- 19 new flexible learning spaces
- a library, hall, canteen and covered outdoor learning area (COLA)
- administration and staff facilities.

The new school is designed to accommodate up to 500 students from K-6 and to allow for future expansion of up to 1000 students.

Modern construction techniques are being used in the build, including constructing school buildings offsite. This reduces the impact to local residents and saves time when compared to traditional builds. The school is scheduled for completion in early 2021, with enrolments currently being accepted for Day 1, Term 1, 2021.

Progress summary

The State Significant Development (SSD) application for this project was fast tracked by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

The SSD is now approved. Main works construction will start in early June 2020. Sewer and stormwater works at the site began on Monday 25 May 2020. These works are not subject to SSD application planning approvals.

Construction

Work hours are 7:00am to 6:00pm, Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 1:00pm on Saturdays. There will be no work on Sundays or public holidays.

We will continue to work with the head contractor to ensure any disruption to our neighbours is kept to a minimum.

Keeping you updated

We are temporarily changing some of the ways that we keep you informed to account for social distancing measures.

Instead of community information sessions, we invite you to view more information about this project at www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/a/alex-avenue-new-primary-school.html.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

Managing construction impacts

Main works will start in early June 2020, starting with levelling and removing excavated material followed by delivery and installation of the school buildings.

As part of the consent to carry out the work, the main contractor is required to develop a Construction Environmental Management Plan. This plan outlines how it will manage construction impacts on nearby local residents. These impacts include noise, vibration and vehicle movements.

You can view the consent conditions, including those required for managing construction impacts at www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/a/alex-avenue-new-primary-school.html.

Your feedback

Let us know what you think about how we propose to manage construction activities listed in the table below.

Provide your feedback via email or phone by Thursday 4 June 2020.

- Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
- Phone: 1300 482 651

Activity	Consent condition and proposed actions
General	<p>Proposed actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Noise levels generated by the operations on site will be managed in accordance with noise control guidelines outlined in the EPA Environmental Noise Control Manual for construction/demolition works.▪ The local community will be provided with advance notice of work, particularly outlining any anticipated high-noise works.▪ Where practical, trucks will turn their engines off when on site to reduce impacts on affected homes.
Construction	<p>Consent condition: procedures for achieving the noise management levels in EPA's Interim Construction Noise Guideline (DECC, 2009).</p> <p>Proposed actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Plant & equipment will not be permitted to 'warm up' before the nominated working hours.▪ Where possible, plant and equipment will be located or orientated to direct noise away from the closest homes.▪ Other noise control measures, including acoustic barriers, will be examined and put in place should the need arise.▪ Where practical, noisy plant and machinery are not to work simultaneously in close proximity to the closest homes.
Construction	<p>Consent condition: Construction hours.</p> <p>Proposed action:</p> <p>If rock breaking activities are required, impacts will be managed through equipment selection, and respite periods. Rock breaking hours will be strictly limited to approved hours of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 9:00am to 12:00pm, Monday to Friday;▪ 2:00pm to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday; and▪ 9:00am to 12:00pm, Saturday.

Activity	Consent condition and proposed actions
Construction	<p>Consent condition: measures to be implemented to manage high noise generating works such as piling, in close proximity to the closest homes.</p> <p>Proposed actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Surrounding sensitive receivers will be consulted on the processes of the excavation (particularly rock breaking).▪ The following respite periods will be introduced for high noise generating works when operating within 75m of affected homes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ they are only undertaken after 8:00am▪ they are only undertaken over continuous periods not exceeding 3 hours with at least a 1 hour respite every 3 hours, and;▪ 'continuous' means any period where there is less than an uninterrupted 60-minute respite between temporarily halting and recommencing any of the intrusive and annoying work (referred to in the Interim Construction Noise Guideline section 4.5).▪ All surrounding receivers will be notified of the duration and extent of the high-noise generating works proposed via letterbox drops.



Artist impression of the new primary school for the Alex Avenue Community

Frequently asked questions

Will street parking be impacted during construction?

The impact of our projects on the local community is considered throughout the planning phase. Street parking impacts will be minimised where possible and contractors are encouraged to park on site or car pool.

What steps will be taken to control noise and dust impacts?

The contractor will continue to implement dust and noise control measures. Dust and noise are minimised with hoarding, shade cloth and spraying water.

How will traffic be managed?

Traffic management will be in place where required for the safety of the local community and workers. Traffic controllers will be used to manage entry and exit of vehicles to and from the construction site as necessary. Vehicles will give way to pedestrians at all times.

Why has the planning approval for this project been fast tracked?

Four schools are among the first wave of projects with assessments fast tracked. Having the SSD fast tracked will mean the projects can get underway sooner and the overall construction pipeline can continue to grow.

Does this mean the usual checks and community consultation will be waived to fast track the projects?

The assessment process has been accelerated, not changed. The usual planning rules and policies will apply, and all projects will be assessed under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Will the community still get to have a say on projects that are being fast tracked?

All of the projects being fast tracked have completed the substantive planning work and are post the exhibition and community consultation phase. School Infrastructure NSW will continue to engage and inform the community throughout the project.

Due to the need to meet requirements under Public Health Orders, a range of digital engagement tools will be used to communicate with the community and stakeholders to seek any comment or feedback. This will include digital project updates, online sharing of information session material, the School Infrastructure NSW website, community information line and mailbox.

When will enrolments be accepted?

The school is now accepting enrolments for Day 1, Term 1, 2021. Enrolment packages are available for collection from Hambledon, Riverbank and Schofields Public Schools. Alternatively, you can download an application to enrol in a NSW Government school here: education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/enrolment.

Complete and mail the form to Riverbank Public School:

Attention: Tracy Anderson
C- Riverbank Public School
25 Wentworth Avenue
THE PONDS NSW 2769

Enrolments will be undertaken in accordance with the NSW Department of Education guidelines. A student is able to enrol at the new primary school if their permanent and principal residence is located within the school catchment area.

For enrolment enquiries, please contact the Principal, Tracey Anderson at tracey.anderson@det.nsw.edu.au.

What is the school catchment/enrolment area?

The NSW Department of Education has confirmed the school catchment area for the new primary school.

The catchment for the new primary school was informed by demographic advice about projected enrolments in the Schofields area and in consultation with local primary school Principals. The Department's process for enrolments in public primary schools will apply.

For a closer look at the catchment go to my.education.nsw.gov.au/school-finder.

How can I contribute my feedback to the school?

Help us inform and develop the identity of the new school for the Alex Avenue Community.

Please take the survey online at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2iNLHBW8IMP9fZlmmXIVBByWln2GEerbbrnydV-pYnDEgwQ/viewform?usp=sf_link or click or scan the QR code to fill out the survey.



The survey will be open for feedback until Friday 12 June 2020.