



An example of flexible a learning space

# Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrade

Project update | December 2022

## Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$8.6 billion in school infrastructure over the next four years, continuing its program to deliver 160 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. This builds on the more than \$9.1 billion invested in projects delivered since 2017, a program of \$17.7 billion in public education infrastructure.

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 upgrade Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School to bring students updated educational facilities and support the local community.

The Birrong Boys High School will deliver:

- upgraded multipurpose hall and covered outdoor learning area (COLA)
- 11 additional general learning spaces
- a new science learning unit
- a new food technology learning unit
- a new materials learning unit
- new administration and staff areas
- improvements to landscape areas
- student support unit (SSU) refurbishment.

The Birrong Girls High School will deliver:

- a new multi-purpose hall and COLA
- 13 additional general learning spaces
- a new visual arts learning unit
- refurbished materials learning unit
- new administration and staff areas
- improvements to landscape areas.

### Progress summary – designs and planning pathways

We have now finished the schematic design for the project and are starting to work on detailed design activities which is the final design stage for the project. The designs have been worked on in consultation with architects and a Project Reference Group (PRG). The PRG includes representatives from the Department of Education, Birrong Boys High School, Birrong Girls High School, P&C representatives, project managers and architects.

We are continuing to engage and work with various stakeholders and NSW government agencies, including Endeavour Energy, Transport for NSW and Canterbury Bankstown Council.

We have started to prepare planning approval documentation for the project to proceed. We are proposing to deliver the Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrade under a variety of planning pathways, which includes exempt development, complying development, and review of environmental factors (REF). We will keep the community informed of progress on our planning pathway implementation.

### Progress summary – environmental conditions

In July 2022, we undertook site investigations at Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School to help us work on the design and planning process. These investigations indicated that asbestos containing materials (ACM) are likely to be present at both schools.

We have been working with consultants to develop a Remediation Action Plan (RAP), which sets out a strategy for how we will manage ACM that we expect to find during construction. The RAP includes for a 'cap and contain' approach to be implemented on site if required.

When construction activities begin, there will be a number of safety measures implemented such as cordoning off the area with security fencing, the use of personal protective equipment by site workers and air monitoring. We will provide more information to the community closer to construction and provide regular updates during the remediation work.

### Next steps

When we have finalised our planning documentation, these will be submitted to the relevant authorities. We will continue working on detailed design activities and consulting with relevant stakeholders. This includes Department of Education, Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School and P&C representatives. We will get ready to go to the market to tender for a contractor who will deliver the upgrades to the schools.

We are committed to working together with our school communities and other stakeholders to deliver the best possible learning facilities for students. For more information, questions or to make a comment, please get in touch with us using the contact details below.