

Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrade

Factsheet | February 2023

Expert advice will inform the approach to upgrading Birrong Boys and Girls High Schools.

The project will combine innovative architectural design and robust health and safety management plans and strategies. This multi layered approach gives us confidence that the upgrades will be delivered in an efficient way which will provide a safe learning environment for our students during construction and for years to come.

Design of the upgrade



The upgrades of both schools are being designed to enhance the learning experience of students. The concept and schematic designs of the upgrades have been developed in consultation with the school and technical experts and guided by the Education Facilities Standards and Guidelines (EFSG).

We design and deliver schools to suit the individual needs of the local school community. We harness opportunities and solve challenges. As a result, no two schools are exactly the same.

Our designs aim to empower teachers to prepare students with the skills and capabilities they need to thrive in a rapidly changing and interconnected world.

Adverse site conditions



Site investigations at Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School were conducted as part of the planning for the upgrades. These investigations indicated that asbestos containing materials (ACM) are likely to be present buried underneath the identified construction sites as well as in some buildings that will be demolished.

This is not an uncommon occurrence as asbestos was frequently used in construction between the 1940s and late 1980s. School Infrastructure NSW has vast experience in working to safely develop areas where ACM is present as we continue to deliver new schools and upgraded schools throughout NSW.

Work to prepare the site for construction will be the first part of the project. This will include removing and safely encapsulating ACM that is expected to be found. This work will be done in accordance with SafeWork NSW regulations, completed by licensed and accredited contractors and monitored in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines.

Managing safety on site



The health and safety of the community is our priority as we work to deliver this important piece of infrastructure.

One element of our safety measures for this project is the development of a site-specific Remediation Action Plan (RAP). The RAP is developed by an independent hygienist contractor and outlines specific safety measures that must be in place to ensure the safety of our construction workers and the community.

When construction activities begin, there may be a number of safety measures implemented such as cordoning off the area with security fencing, dust suppression measures, use of a spotter, the use of personal protective equipment by site workers and air monitoring.

This portion of the works will be completed by licensed and accredited contractors and monitored in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines.

The community will be notified and more information will be provided before demolition and any remediation activities take place.

Managing construction impacts



When we prepare to begin our construction activities, we create a number of plans including construction and environmental management plans. These plans outline how we will manage the construction impacts which are likely to happen on our sites.

Each construction site is different and we use different construction approaches to suit each project. As a result, our plans to manage the impacts for each project will vary. We also consider residents and businesses that may be impacted by each project when developing these.

Once the contract for a builder is awarded for the Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrades and a building contractor is on board, these plans will be developed which will address all impacts of construction, including during the demolition stage.

Details about specific measures that will be implemented as part of the project will be communicated with the community once these plans are finalised.

More information about how we plan for and manage construction impacts can be found at edu.nsw.link/ConstructionImpacts. In this page, you will be able to download this information in multiple languages.

