



Artist impressions of Birrong Boys and Birrong Girls High School upgrades.

Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrade

Project update | April 2024

Investing in our schools

As part of the NSW Government's plan to rebuild essential services, the 2023-24 Budget is delivering a record \$8.8 billion for new and upgraded schools. This targeted investment in growing communities will ensure working families get access to a world class public education.

Project overview

A project is underway to upgrade Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School. The project will deliver upgraded facilities to support the learning needs of the local community.

Progress update

Construction has continued at both school sites with demolition and remediation works now complete. These works were undertaken with the safety of students and the broader community at its core. The works were successfully and safely completed with minimal disruption to the schools.

A tower crane has been installed in the Girls High School site and groundworks are underway at both sites. The term 'groundworks' is used to describe all the work to be done within the ground to get the sites ready for construction. These works include digging the trenches that will hold water, drainage and sewer system pipes, as well as installing conduits that contain the cables to supply services like electricity and internet to the new facilities. Throughout March, we also installed piers and footings to support the structure of the new teaching buildings and started pouring the concrete for the ground slabs, stairwells and lift shafts.

Next steps

We will continue to pour concrete slabs and build the steel and concrete columns for the new buildings, followed by the installation of the roof. Noise levels are being monitored at each site and we will continue to explore ways to minimise any disturbance to the students during the next phase of this project.

Site remediation works are now complete

In July 2022, site investigations were undertaken to assist with the design and planning process. These investigations showed that asbestos containing material was likely to be buried underneath the identified construction sites as well as in some buildings which were planned to be demolished.

This information was shared with the community at information sessions, in project updates, school presentations and within a [factsheet](#). During this time, we worked with hygienists and other specialists to determine the safest way to manage this contamination and developed a site-specific plan for the works to remediate the area. The in-ground remediation works started in November 2023 and were recently completed.

All work was done in accordance with work, health and safety laws, and the site-specific Asbestos Management Plan. All work was monitored in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

The sites were inspected by the independent hygienist and we have now received a clearance certificate for both sites which reclassified the sites as a “standard construction zone”. Some measures, such as air monitoring, may still be used as a precaution during some works and, if any further asbestos containing material is found, works will stop immediately, an exclusion zone will be implemented and air monitoring will be undertaken until the area is remediated.

The health, safety and wellbeing of students, staff and the community is our highest priority. Information about our approach to ensuring community safety is available in the [factsheet](#) for the project which can be found in the library tab in the [project's webpage](#) at www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au.

School holidays works – April 2024

In the upcoming April school holidays, we expect to start pressure testing of existing hydrants at both schools. This will require the water supply to be turned off for a few hours at a time at each site, however, there will be no impact to surrounding properties.

For the Birrong Boys High School, the building contractor will install an additional 4 site sheds on the school's oval to provide the required facilities for workers, storage, and equipment. The sheds will be included in the construction compound part of the site as the works continue to be delivered. Traffic control will be in place when required during these works. These works are being scheduled to take place during the school holidays to minimise impacts from construction on our students.

Completion timeline

We are pleased to confirm that a detailed works programme has now been finalised by the contractor and completion of the new facilities is forecast for early 2025, weather permitting. More information about when students will be able to move into their new facilities will be shared closer to the project being completed.

The full scope of the upgrade can be found in the February 2023 information packs which can be found in the library section of the project page at www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/b/Birrong-Boys-HS-and-Birrong-Girls-HS-upgrade.html.



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