

# Blakebrook Public School

Project update | August 2024

Image caption: Artist's impression Blakebrook PS



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## Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is committed to rebuilding flood affected schools in the Northern Rivers region, ensuring we build back better with more flood resilient schools for local students and local communities.

## Project overview

As part of this commitment a project is underway to rebuild Blakebrook Public School after it was extensively damaged by flooding in 2022. The project will deliver a raised flood resilient school with four modern classrooms, a library, canteen and administration spaces, as well as an undercover play and learning area and new landscaping.

## Progress update

- Offsite manufacturing of the new school building modules is continuing and is now 50% complete. Please see images overleaf.
- The steel gantry, which will provide support for the new school, has been successfully procured and is in the construction phase. As part of our flood mitigation strategy, the school will be elevated above the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) level and the gantry will be engineered to withstand a PMF event.
- The temporary school at Blakebrook has now been removed in readiness for demolition of the existing school.
- Before demolition begins, we must ensure that the Development Application (DA) conditions are met. This includes development of a Heritage Interpretation Strategy that honours and celebrates the rich history of Blakebrook Public School — which has been present on the site since 1868. Our project team is working with the school to develop this strategy.
- The Development Application (DA 5.2023.337.1P) for rebuilding the school is under assessment by the Northern Regional Planning Panel. In response to the panel's request, we've provided additional information regarding evacuation measures, building design considerations, and water availability for firefighting.



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## Next steps

- Off-site manufacturing of the new school buildings and gantry will continue.
- Site establishment and preparations for demolition will begin once we have certainty over timing for approval of the main works DA.
- Students will continue to learn from the Goolmangar Public School site while Blakebrook Public School is being rebuilt.

## More information



You can find more information about the project on the Blakebrook Public School flood recovery [project page](#) or by scanning the QR code.

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



**Caption: Blakebrook Public School building modules under construction**