



An example of a recently completed learning space at another school

Budawang School relocation

Project update

April 2021

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$7 billion over the next four years, continuing its program to deliver more than 200 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. 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

Planning is continuing on a project to relocate the existing Budawang School in Ulladulla to Milton.

The project will deliver additional purpose built learning spaces and a hydrotherapy aquatic facility to cater to students with moderate (IO) or severe intellectual disabilities (IS) from years K-12.

There will be seven new learning spaces to accommodate student growth and new core facilities.

Progress summary

At the end of 2020 and early 2021 School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) engaged with the local community to share feedback provided on the project.

In April 2021, SINSW lodged the State Signification Development Application to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

What is a State Significant Development Application?

A State Significant Development Application (SSDA) is used for projects that have special significance to the people and State of NSW. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) is responsible for the planning approval process for SSDAs, rather than a local council.

How can I find out more about the SSDA for Budawang School?

You can find detailed information about the SSDA by going to the DPIE's website: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/39516

How can I provide feedback on the SSDA?

You can make a formal submission before Wednesday 2 June 2021.

Follow the 'Make a Submission' link at: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/39516

All feedback on the SSDA should be directed to DPIE via this link.

For more information contact:

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

Frequently asked questions about the Milton site

What is the remaining site at Milton being used for?

The buildings outside of the Budawang School relocation project boundary in Milton will be preserved for future educational needs. Upgrading or expanding the existing buildings on the site was not part of the scope for the Budawang School relocation project.

Why was consultation done on the Milton site at the start of the Budawang project?

During the early planning phase of the Budawang relocation project, masterplan workshoping was undertaken with the Project Reference Group, which included discussions for potential future uses of the residual land and buildings. This is not unusual for school projects, however this is not part of the scope and has not progressed further than the early masterplan workshops.

Are the buildings being maintained?

School Infrastructure NSW will continue to maintain this site, however the majority of the buildings would need significant upgrades to be used as learning facilities. In some cases, the buildings would need to be demolished and rebuilt to current Educational Facilities Standards and Guidelines.

Will the community be consulted on the future use of the remaining site at Milton?

The residual land at the Milton site will be preserved for future educational needs. School Infrastructure NSW has assessed the needs for the entire Shoalhaven region and has determined there is no requirement for additional school facilities in the area at this time.

We will continue to monitor population trends in the Ulladulla/Milton area to ensure appropriate educational infrastructure is provided for the community. The local community and stakeholders will be consulted at the appropriate stage regarding future use of the site.

How has the department determined this position?

Public education facilities are planned based on the needs of a local area or region, rather than school by school, to ensure every child in NSW has a well-resourced local public school to attend.

The Department is aware of additional housing being built in the Ulladulla/Milton area and that there may be more school age children as a result.

School Infrastructure NSW has assessed the needs for the Ulladulla/Milton area with the current information and data available from a wide variety of sources, including local council data and official population projections for the LGA and our own enrolment trends. This demonstrated, that based on current information and data, existing schools in Ulladulla and Milton can service potential growth. As a result an expansion is not required at this time and may adversely affect other schools by redirecting critical resources to new facilities.

The Department is aware of an increase in student numbers at Ulladulla Public School, Milton Public School and Ulladulla High School after the closure of the Shoalhaven Anglican School in 2016. The Department of Education (as well as the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) will continue to monitor population migration trends to establish if it is a long term trend.

There are a number of strategies used by the Department to manage enrolments in the short to medium term. In the case of Ulladulla and Milton, a number of demountable buildings are currently being used. This is a typical intervention to meet the short to medium term needs of school communities across NSW as school population fluctuates between years and are suitable teaching spaces that meet education pedagogy.

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What are the population and enrolment forecasts for the local area?

The Department's long-term projections are informed by census data and dwelling and population forecasts provided by the Department of Planning Environment and Industry (DPIE). The future population of NSW, including for school aged children, is defined by trends in births, deaths and migration (international and domestic). They are used to project how many people are expected to reside in NSW over 5-year intervals that align with the census periods. They paint a picture of NSW's population, including how many people are likely to be living in NSW, likely age structure and where in NSW they are likely to live.

The population forecasts are provided for NSW Government agencies, local councils and the community and ensure a consistent view of the future NSW population. This enables NSW Government agencies to work with an agreed set of projections for proposals, business plans and strategies.

The release of population projections by DPIE provides the parameters for school planning by defining the future student population. These projections become limits in population because there can only be so many 5-19 year olds living in NSW at any one time (collectively projected to be around 1.5 million by 2036). This limitation ensures that School Infrastructure NSW is not over-planning or under-planning for persons expected to be residing in NSW in the future.

Because the geography of school intake areas are smaller than local government areas, School Infrastructure NSW disaggregates these population projections to a smaller area based on Australian Bureau of Statistics geography (to a Statistical Area Level 2). This gives School Infrastructure NSW the best official statistical details that are available for smaller areas to build a profile of the local community.

The population projection for the Shoalhaven LGA area anticipates the number of students living in this area is projected to be stabilise to 2036 and this is reflected across smaller areas such as Ulladulla and Milton. By 2036, the largest projected growth in the area is expected in the 70-85 year age bracket due the area being an attractive retirement destination.

The recent increase in student numbers at Ulladulla Public School, Milton Public School and Ulladulla High School is likely to be a result of the Shoalhaven Anglican School's closure in 2016.

What if local enrolments continue to increase?

The Department of Education provides a place for all students at their local school. NSW public schools accommodates every local child who wishes to attend. We will continue to monitor population trends in the Ulladulla/Milton area to ensure appropriate educational infrastructure is provided for the community as population variables can change (e.g. Covid 19 might influence migration patterns with the area attracting more work from home couples rather than being a retiree dominated internal migration trend).

The local School Infrastructure NSW office will continue to work closely with the school leadership to ensure we are able to support the educational learning outcomes of every student.

Demand for school infrastructure has to be assessed on a relative-need basis across the whole state. At any given time, we have a finite amount of education funds and we must optimise how we distribute them.

In cases of sustained enrolment increases, we deliver additional permanent facilities or new schools to support this growth. If a need arises for additional capacity in the area, the Department can utilise the residual land at the Milton site.

More information

We are committed to working together with our school communities to deliver the best possible learning facilities for students.

If you would like to learn more about population and enrolment projections, visit:

<https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/what-we-do/we-build-schools/school-enrolment-and-population-projections.html>

If you have any questions please contact us on the details below.

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