NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure



Bungendore Public School and Bungendore High School

Temporary School Project Update

September 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 progress

Bungendore High School will be open to Years 7 and 8 for Day 1 Term 1 2023 in purpose built temporary facilities located at Bungendore Public School.

After consulting the principals and school community, we are developing solutions to ensure quality learning environments for primary school students and local high school students who are starting Years 7 and 8 in 2023.

Fencing will separate the schools and the temporary school will have dedicated toilets, amenities, specialist teaching spaces and a separate administration and school entry from Majara Street.

While the existing primary school playing field will be used for the temporary high school learning spaces and student play space, additional options for play space within the primary school are being investigated including opening an inaccessible area of the school, and the use of Mick Sherd Oval for lunch time and sports activities. Other existing open space within the primary school will continue to be used as play space, and the basketball court will be resurfaced for primary school students.

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) is experienced in building temporary learning spaces in communities across NSW and we are determined to ensure we minimise disruption during installation, and provide quality teaching and learning spaces for students and staff.

Site establishment for the temporary school is expected from 9 September 2022.

We will continue to work with the school leadership as planning continues and keep the community informed as the project progresses.

For more information contact:



NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure

Why a temporary school?

While the State Significant Development (SSD) application for the new high school is being determined, the Department of Education is working to ensure Bungendore High School will start operating for local Year 7 and 8 students on Day 1 Term 1 2023.

To achieve this, the Department considered options where temporary learning spaces could be located on land it owned within Bungendore. The land acquired this year, which includes the Council buildings in Majara Street and where the permanent high school will be located, was deemed not suitable. The buildings cannot be used as learning spaces in their current configuration, and locating temporary buildings on this site would require a change to the SSD application.

The temporary learning spaces being installed at Bungendore Public School will be in place during 2023. SINSW is committed to building the permanent high school in the shortest possible timeframe. The completion of the new Bungendore High School, and the duration of needing the temporary learning spaces at Bungendore Public School, will be decided by a number of factors including the timeframe for determination of the SSD application by the Department of Planning and Environment and environmental factors during construction.

We will work closely with the school leadership to best meet the needs of students and keep the community updated.

Student play space

SINSW is planning the temporary school with the principals to ensure the best possible outcome for students.

Planning requirements, existing infrastructure, retaining trees, accessibility, a familiar location, and providing a clear separation between the high school and primary school, were among the factors that were considered in determining the location and layout of the temporary high school buildings.

Discussions have been undertaken with Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) for the use of Mick Sherd Oval during lunch breaks for primary school students. We are also improving existing outdoor areas of Bungendore Public School for use as play space. This includes resurfacing the basketball court, and opening areas currently inaccessible to students after improvements are made. These works will be a priority and we will update the community about progress.

Operating the two schools

The temporary high school will be located on the playing field and is separated from Bungendore Public School by fencing. The location will be familiar for students who are current or recent Year 6 students of Bungendore Public School.

High school and primary school students will have separate designated play spaces. There are buildings and fences between the two areas and there will be teachers on playground duty during breaks to supervise the students in their designated areas.

There are no plans to share any amenities or facilities that belong to the primary school. The play space and facilities for high school students will be within the boundary of the temporary high school.

For more information contact:





*Indicative only.

For more information contact:



Frequently Asked Questions

Why will there be a temporary school at Bungendore?

To ensure that we have an operational high school for local Bungendore students for Day 1 Term 1 2023.

Why was Bungendore Public School the chosen site?

After considering a number of site options, Bungendore Public School was chosen. The site of the permanent Bungendore High School was considered, but this site would have required a different planning pathway, and would not have provided certainty of having an operational high school by Day 1 Term 1 2023.

Will the temporary high school have its own toilets?

Yes. The temporary facilities will have its own dedicated toilets and amenities, and other high school facilities including administration.

Will arrangements for the Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) be affected?

There will be no impact to the current OSHC arrangements.

How will bell times, lunch and recess breaks, and administrative functions work across the public school and the high school?

The principals of the public school and high school are working together to ensure operations and separation of both schools are in place for Day 1 Term 1 2023. The Department is providing support and learnings from other colocated schools.

Will there be staggered break times, start and finish times?

The start time for the high school will be 9:05 am and the primary school at 9:10am. Students for both schools will be catching the same buses and these start times ensure all students can arrive on time to start school. The finish time for the high school will be 3:10 pm, the same time as the primary school, as this is when the buses leave to take students home.

To alleviate the potential for higher noise levels of students at play, the principals of both the public school and high school are working to have some common break times. The primary school and the high school are in two distinctly separate areas, separated by a fence and buildings, and with teachers on playground duty, some common break times are possible.

How will traffic be managed?

A traffic consultant has been appointed to better understand the potential change in traffic and advise on ways to mitigate potential traffic impacts. This work is underway. SINSW is liaising with key stakeholders, including QPRC as traffic studies continue.

Will there be double-storey demountables?

Double-storey demountables will not be used and the size of the buildings is sufficient for the expected Years 7 and 8 enrolments.

What are the timeframes for the temporary school at Bungendore?

It is anticipated that the temporary facilities will take three months to build, weather and other factors permitting. The temporary school will be in place to provide time for new school staff to become familiar with the spaces and prepare for the new school year.

For more information contact:



Will any trees be removed?

The intention is that we will not need to remove any trees to accommodate the temporary school.

Will there be further opportunities to provide input regarding the temporary high school?

SINSW is working closely with the school leadership at both schools to plan and operate the temporary school. Community input is also being considered to ensure the best possible learning outcomes for students at the existing public school and the temporary high school.

What planning pathway is being used for the temporary high school?

Short term portable learning spaces are exempt development under the *State Environmental Planning Policy* (*Transport and Infrastructure*) 2021.

How long will the temporary high school be in operation?

The Response to Submissions for the State Significant Development (SSD) application will be lodged with the Department of Planning in the near future. This will be on exhibition for the community to review the updated design and proposal. Once a determination is made on the SSD application, construction can start. SINSW is determined that construction of the new high school will be done in the shortest possible timeframe.

Sign up to receive updates emailed directly to you

Register to receive project updates, works notifications and other communications by completing the contact form on the new high school in Bungendore webpage at: www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/n/new-high-school-in-bungendore.html#community-info-tab

Or scan the QR code to visit the project website:



For more information contact:

