



Artist impression of Carlingford West Public School buildings Z, Y, and X looking from the west.
Designs may change as part of ongoing development.

Upgrades to Carlingford West Public School and Cumberland High School

Frequently asked questions

August 2022

To be read alongside 'Information Boards – August 2022'

In this FAQ:

- Progress summary
- Statutory planning pathway
- Community engagement
- Design
- Connecting to Country
- Traffic and transport
- Enrolment
- Managing construction impacts

Progress summary

Work has started to prepare the site for the planned refurbishment and construction works.

Carlingford West Public School (CWPS)

The CWPS temporary school comprising 29 demountables and associated amenities are now operational, with the remaining temporary canteen facility being completed in early September 2022.

Demolition of building C is well under way followed by building J. Demolition works are expected to finish mid-October 2022 weather permitting.

We will soon start refurbishing buildings A and B Administration facilities for the school.

Cumberland High School (CHS)

CHS temporary school works comprising of student amenities, canteen, uniform shop and stores are now operational.

Demolition of building B (canteen and amenities) is well underway and is aimed to be finished in coming weeks weather permitting.

The contract for the above early works has been awarded to Taylor Construction.

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Statutory planning pathway

The Carlingford West Public School and Cumberland High School upgrade will go through a State Significant Development (SSD) application process to be assessed by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is prepared for the SSD application and provides information to decision makers about the environmental impacts of the project.

The SSD application will be lodged in coming months and placed on public exhibition, allowing the community and other stakeholders to comment on the proposal.

Typically, the SSD assessment process takes between 9 to 12 months.

If DPE grants consent, a preferred contractor for main works will be identified in early 2023. We expect construction to start in late 2023 and take 18 to 24 months to finish. Detailed information about the SSD approval process is available at planningportal.nsw.gov.au.

How will the community be consulted and kept informed?

We will keep you updated and provide more information as the project progresses.

The project team will continue to work with stakeholders such as the school principals and P&C committee throughout the detailed design phase to ensure the requirements of government and community stakeholders are achieved.

Following the SSD lodgement, the submission will be placed on public exhibition for 28 days where you will have the opportunity to review the documents submitted as part of the application and provide comment.

What is the plan for the temporary school?

Temporary schools are a useful tool for many new schools and school upgrades. They allow students to learn in their local community while construction work on permanent facilities takes place.

Design

How many students will the upgraded school accommodate?

The upgrade to Carlingford West Public School and Cumberland High School is designed to meet current and anticipated future enrolment demand.

The SSD application will request approval for development that would accommodate approximately 1,610 students at Carlingford West Public School, and 2,040 at Cumberland High School. However, actual student numbers will depend on enrolments at the time and be influenced by enrolment management measures such as intake area boundary changes.

How many levels will the buildings be?

The buildings will vary between 2 and 5 storeys. Upgrades to the schools will be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act for equitable access.

Why is a new school hall being proposed within the design?

The existing hall (building J) is currently too small for the size of the school and may affect the ability for the school to facilitate learning outcomes. A review of the overall structure and condition of the hall also determined it would require substantial refurbishment and maintenance to ensure its longevity. It is more cost-effective to replace the hall with a new facility.

Can the designs change?

Yes. These are the schematic designs which will be submitted as part of the State Significant Development application. Amendments may be necessary as part of the assessment process to:

- improve the design of the project
- respond to issues raised in submissions
- further mitigate the impacts of the project.

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Some aspects of the design will continue to be developed and can change following planning approval – including internal layouts, internal finishes, room configuration or to meet statutory compliance requirements for Building Code of Australia (BCA), fire protection and utility service connection.

Major changes, such as increased/reduced building footprint, changes to building height, changes to building layouts/location, façade material or changes relating to any unexpected heritage discovery would require an updated planning approval. This is known as a modification as it is an application to modify the planning consent.

Will any trees be removed from the school?

The landscape design strategy is to keep as many of the existing trees as possible, and increase the urban tree canopy cover across the site. We will be planting more trees than we remove.

An ecology and arborist report will assess the trees onsite and form part of the State Significant Development submission.

How will the design features be sustainable?

The project will be targeting 4 Star Green Star accreditation, which is a Green Building Council of Australia certification that rates the sustainability of the facility. This includes the provision of solar panels, water tanks, use of sustainable materials and efficient fixtures and fittings.

The solar panels on Carlingford West Public School are expected to produce more than 75,000 KiloWatt Hours (kWh) per year.

The solar panels on Cumberland High School are expected to produce more than 106,000 kWh per year.

How much play space in square meters before and after construction?

The proposed design will increase play space at both schools by approximately 25%.

At Carlingford West Public School, play space is expected to increase from about 26,500 m² to 33,000 m².

At Cumberland High School, play space is expected to increase from about 24,800 m² to 31,400 m².

Connecting to Country

The designers walked the site with local traditional owners to better understand the history and their insights. The elders were pleased with the team's attention to respecting country.

The schematic design positions buildings to respect the trees onsite and work with the natural contours and waterways. The site has been designed to create a gathering space by framing the central courtyard space in each school; open-ended so that each school has its own identity while maintaining a connection.

Within each school there are smaller gathering spaces, replicating the traditional practices of gathering and storytelling. There are 6 spaces in the landscape of each school – each one represents the 6 seasons observed by the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and planted with endemic species. The schools may use these spaces to teach the students about country and the history of the land.

The building fabric itself draws inspiration from the history of the land – the turpentine-ironbark forest, the surrounding Sydney sandstone gully forest and the citrus orchard that the site once was. The scheme respects the sky by keeping building heights as low as possible. The building colours change to lighter silver-grey tones at the top, allowing them to blend with the sky. The high school features blue and green tones found in gum trees and reflective of the sky.

As the project progresses through the design stages, there may be opportunities to incorporate artwork.

The project responds to the Government Architect's Connection with Country Framework. The framework calls for the team to have a deep and intimate knowledge of the land and sky on which the project sits.

Traffic and transport

Transport plans

Our team is reviewing and assessing the traffic and transport impacts in collaboration with state, local and school stakeholders.

A Transport and Accessibility Impact Assessment (TAIA) will be prepared. This report is one of the technical assessments required for the SSD submission. It analyses the existing transport network, assesses the suitability of vehicle access points and the impact of the development on the area, and sets out a draft School Transport Plan. The TAIA will be submitted with the SSD application and placed on public exhibition with the SSD on the NSW Department of Planning website: [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Assess and Regulate/Development-Assessment/Planning-Approval-Pathways](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Assess%20and%20Regulate/Development-Assessment/Planning-Approval-Pathways).

Where will pick-up and drop-off be located?

Upgrades to the 2 pick-up and drop-off locations are proposed for Felton Road East and Felton Road West. The Cumberland High School link road between Dunmore Avenue and Blenheim Road will have an approximate 54-metre long drop-off and pick-up bay.

The proposed link road will be fenced, gated and signed for safety.

What onsite car parking is available?

A car parking strategy will be developed as part of an overarching design, which will include 45 car parking spaces for staff of Carlingford West Public School and 74 staff car parking spaces at Cumberland High School.

Enrolment

How are enrolment numbers determined?

Enrolment projections relate to the population and housing forecasts released regularly by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment. This enables school infrastructure to be planned to meet future enrolment demand related to demographic and development changes.

We use several strategies to manage enrolments including ensuring each school is able to accommodate local students before principals consider out-of-area enrolments, and realigning school intake areas to balance student enrolment growth evenly across local schools. Both these measures are in place at Carlingford West Public School.

Student numbers will be managed through the department's Enrolment Policy which includes 100 point residential address checks. Since this policy was introduced in 2019, students enrolled at that time may remain at the school until they leave after Year 6.

You can find more information about how the NSW Department of Education plans for growth via this fact sheet: schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/what-we-do/we-build-schools/planning-for-growth-fact-sheet.html.

How will future enrolments at Carlingford West Public School/Cumberland High School be handled?

Effective Day 1 Term 1 2022, the intake areas for primary schools in the Carlingford West/Oatlands area were changed for all new enrolments, to better balance enrolments across our schools. The intake areas for the following schools have been adjusted:

- Carlingford West Public School
- Murray Farm Public School
- Burnside Public School
- Oatlands Public School.

The new school intake areas can be viewed using the NSW Public School Finder at schoolfinder.education.nsw.gov.au.

Managing construction impacts

We're committed to providing the best learning environments at public schools across NSW to give young people the skills and learning they need to succeed. We're delivering a record investment in new and upgraded schools and we acknowledge this work can cause a range of impacts, such as:



noise from tools and machines



vibration from demolition, digging and drilling



dust from demolition and digging



increased traffic or changes to traffic conditions on local streets

We aim to reduce the impact of construction by:



preparing for construction before work starts



communicating with neighbours or others who may be impacted by the works



managing the way the construction works are completed to reduce impacts if possible

A plan to minimise impacts to the local area will be developed prior to construction and shared with the community when planning approval is received.

For more information see our website schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/construction-impacts.html.

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Artist impression of Carlingford West Public School buildings W, Z & Y looking from the south.



Artist impression of Cumberland High School buildings X and Y looking from the east.



Artist impression of Cumberland High School buildings Z, Y, and X looking from the west.

Artist impressions only. Designs subject to change.