

Cecil Hills High School upgrade

Information pack | September 2022



An example of new high school flexible learning spaces being delivered across NSW

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.

The upgrade of Cecil Hills High School will include additional permanent learning spaces and core facilities to support the growing population in Western Sydney. The project will deliver:



New learning spaces



New staff facilities



Multipurpose hall



Fitness and movement spaces



Upgraded outdoor workshop



Accessibility improvements to existing ramps and walkways



An example of a multipurpose hall with indoor sports court

Project overview

The upgrade to Cecil Hills High School will expand the capacity of the school through the construction of a new building with flexible learning spaces. The new learning spaces will include some with a STEM (Science, technology, engineering and mathematics) focus.

The school's gym will be redeveloped to create an extended multipurpose gym/hall, the canteen will be extended, a new external work shop built, new staff facilities provided and improvements made to existing ramps and walkways.

Statutory planning approval process

The project is considered a State Significant Development (SSD) and therefore the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) will assess the development application (DA) for the upgrade.

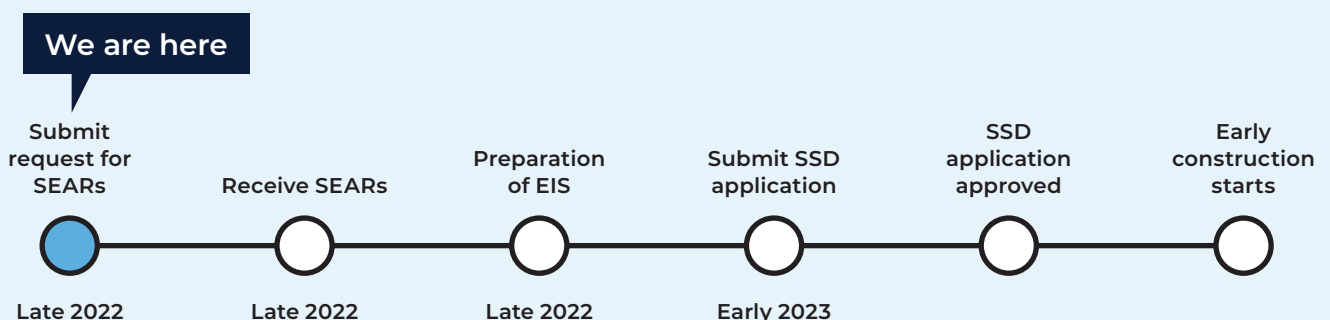
We will start the planning approval process by submitting a request to DPE for the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) which will tell us the studies that need to be included as part of the application.

As part of the SSD application, we will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS will contain the technical studies required by the SEARs and considers matters such as traffic, noise, operations, ecology, bushfire and construction management.

The technical studies involve research, site investigations, surveys and assessments, data analysis, and community and stakeholder consultation, and can be viewed when the SSD application is placed on public exhibition in the coming months.

Timeline

The timeline below outlines the statutory planning process that we must complete before construction can start. The timeline shows indicative dates only and the completion date will be confirmed once the SSD application is approved and the delivery program is finalised.



Concept design plan

The concept design has been developed in consultation with the school leadership and the department's technical experts.

The layout of learning spaces and facilities has been determined in line with the department's Educational Facilities Standards and Guidelines, and with consideration of spatial requirements, site constraints, access and operational needs of the high school.

Our architects also take into consideration the overall layout and look and feel of the school, as well as the character of the buildings to ensure the design responds to the local surroundings and takes into consideration heritage, environmental, access, transport and other planning requirements.

The current concept design places a new building with learning spaces in the north eastern corner of the school site along Frederick Road and adds an extension to the school's existing gym/hall to create a multipurpose facility that includes a basketball court. The design may change as part of the ongoing design development.



LEGEND

Existing building	C Multi-purpose	G Arts	L Support unit	B Canteen extension
New building	D General learning	H Arts	M General learning	C New hall extension
A Administration	E Staff	J Staff	N General learning	R New block
B Canteen	F Library	K Workshop	P Substation	S New workshop

Frequently asked questions

What is a State Significant Development Application?

State Significant Development (SSD) applications are used for projects that have special significance to the people and State of NSW. The DPE is responsible for the planning approval process for SSD applications, rather than a local council.

What are the Secretary’s Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs)?

The SEARs are the set of terms by which the DPE will assess the application for development approval for a new high school. The SEARs ensure that the impacts of the project are properly described and understood, by advising the studies that need to be included as part of the project’s State Significant Development (SSD) application to gain development approval.

How will traffic and transport be managed?

We identify and review transport impacts early in the planning process and collaborate with state, local and school stakeholders to put in place appropriate traffic management.

A preliminary transport assessment was undertaken in the early stages of planning to identify the challenges and opportunities associated with travel to the site. A complete transport assessment is currently under way, which will be one of several technical reports supporting the State Significant Development (SSD) application for the project.

What will happen to the school’s sports courts?

We will need to remove the sports courts at the north eastern corner of the school to make way for the new building. New courts will be provided with the extension to the school’s existing gym/hall to create a multipurpose facility that includes a basketball court.

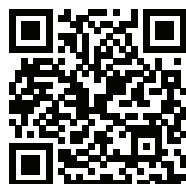
What are flexible learning spaces?

New learning environments offer flexibility where teachers can provide more opportunities for student engagement. The learning spaces:

- are adaptable to accommodate small or large groups
- provide accessibility to new technology in a variety of settings
- encourage a personalised learning experience so students learn at their own level and pace.

How can I get involved?

We are committed to working together with our school communities and stakeholders to deliver the best learning facilities for students. A dedicated project page has been published on the School Infrastructure NSW website which will be updated as the project progresses.



You can also contact us via our community information line and email.



For a **Translation and Interpreting Service**, call **131 450** and ask them to call the Department of Education - School Infrastructure NSW on **1300 482 651**.

Contact us



Website

Stay up to date by visiting the School Infrastructure NSW website schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au



Email

Contact the Community Engagement team by emailing schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au



Phone

Contact us between 9:00am and 5:00pm, Monday to Friday on **1300 482 651**