Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing $6.7 billion over the next four years to deliver 190 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. In addition, a record $1.3 billion is being spent on school maintenance over five years. This is the largest investment in public education infrastructure in the history of NSW.

This project includes the redevelopment of Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School.

It will deliver:

- more than 150 new and refurbished innovative learning and teaching spaces
- increased quality active play space
- specialist teaching facilities such as science, art, and music rooms
- dedicated performing arts spaces
- new sports facilities and recreational areas
- new libraries and administration facilities.

Progress summary

High School Consultation

- Consultation with Chatswood High School student leaders and classroom visits.
- Development Application (DA) submitted for tree removal on the Chatswood High School site to enable Building R works.

Primary School Consultation

- Project briefing for the new Chatswood Public School Principal.
- School Infrastructure NSW Chief Executive presented to Chatswood Public School parents.
- Further landscape and play space workshops were held with the Chatswood Public School Student Representative Council (SRC), principal and staff.

Overall Consultation

- Community information sessions were held in mid-October. Feedback will inform the State Significant Development (SSD) application.
- NSW Government Architect’s State Design Review Panel endorsed the revised masterplan.
- School principals and leadership teams met with an education design strategist to operationalise the proposed design.
- Project Reference Group (PRG) meeting.
- Separate design user group sessions with staff and students to workshop teaching areas.

The Department will share more information on the relocation of the Intensive English Centre from Chatswood High School as soon as it is available.

For more information contact:
School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au
Chatswood Public School works
- Starting Day 1, Term 4, 2019, the Department has funded additional toilet cleaning services. Female toilets were opened in Buildings A and B during recess and lunch to alleviate wait times.
- Repair of the soft fall and playground equipment has started.
- Over the next 3 months works will continue on maintenance and improved operations including toilet amenities, painting and preparing for back to school Term 1, 2020.

Next steps for the Project
- Workshop with Public School staff, High School staff and P&C representatives to discuss design and staging principles.
- Submit the DA to remove the fire damaged cottage on the Public School site. Demolition of the cottage and installation of two demountables is scheduled for the summer break.
- Continue design user group sessions and landscape workshops with staff and students at both schools.
- Prepare to lodge the Complying Development application for Building R on the High School site, anticipated for mid 2020.
- Relocate the existing demountable buildings in the north east corner of Chatswood High School closer to the northern end of the oval during the summer break.
- Finalise the SSD application for lodgement in early 2020.

Frequently asked questions

What we’ve heard
What is the construction timeline for the proposed masterplan?
The timeline for completion of the upgrades remains the same as previously communicated. Pending approvals, works will be completed at the end of 2023.

Construction will be staged to minimise disruption and will happen across both Primary School and High School sites. Pending approvals, construction for Building R will start mid 2020, with both the Primary School and High School SSD works starting early 2021.

What is the Department doing to address overcrowding and capacity at Chatswood Public School?
The Department has listened and considered feedback from school communities, local residents and staff about capacity at Chatswood Public School.

The design will accommodate the current number of enrolled Public School Students in new and refurbished permanent teaching spaces.

Further enrolment pressure has been considered, the Bush Campus will be retained while the new infrastructure is built and for as long as needed.

The Department is exploring options for a new primary school in the Chatswood area.

How will the heritage buildings be refurbished on the Pacific Highway site?
The school executive is in consultation with the Department on the required maintenance for heritage Buildings A and B.

A new, larger library will be built in Building P2 and the administrative spaces improved in Building A.

Will there be sufficient toilets?
Yes. The number of toilets allocated for each school will be based on enrolment capacities and designed in accordance with the Australian building codes and design standards.

What play space will be available on the Public School site during construction?
Consulation and discussions are ongoing between the project team, school executive and P&C to deliver maximum play space during construction.

Will there be lifts in buildings P1 and P2 on the Public School site?
Yes. Multi-storey buildings P1 and P2 will be fitted with lifts to safely and efficiently transition students between floors as appropriate.

Will the High School and Primary School music programs continue during the construction phase?
Yes, both the High School and Primary School music programs will continue.