



## Upgrades to Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School

Project update

December 2019

### 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.

Upgrades to Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School will deliver:

- more than 150 new and refurbished innovative learning and teaching spaces
- increased quality active play space currently allocated to primary school and high school students
- 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

- Progressing the early schematic design for Building R at Chatswood High School.
- Chatswood Public School and High School Principals, Public School P&C representatives, and members of the project team participated in a design and staging workshop.

- Chatswood Public School and High School PRG representatives supported moving forward the designs for both school upgrades.
- Development Application (DA) for the removal of the fire damaged cottage (Block C) on the Public School site was submitted to Willoughby Council. Demolition of the cottage and installation of two demountables is scheduled for the summer break, pending DA approval.
- Work is continuing on the repair to the soft fall area during standard construction hours between 7:00am and 5:30pm, Monday to Friday, and 8:00am to 1:00pm, Saturday.
- Meeting with Willoughby Council on the revised masterplan and current DAs.
- Project Reference Group (PRG) meeting.

### Next steps

- 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.
- Prepare to lodge the Complying Development application for Building R at Chatswood High School, anticipated for mid 2020.
- Extensive Chatswood Public School community consultation over the past two months has influenced progress on the State Significant Development (SSD) application. The SSD application will be lodged in March 2020.

## Frequently asked questions

### What is the statutory planning approval process?

SINSW requires "development approval" from the NSW government to proceed with the upgrades to Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School. The formal process of gaining approval is called the statutory planning approval process.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPI&E) is responsible for managing the approval for this project and will review the application with consideration of both local and state specific issues. This is because this project is a State Significant Development (SSD). The Minister for Planning or their delegate is the consent authority and it is anticipated the decision may take up to 12 months.

### What is a State Significant Development (SSD)?

An SSD is a development of particular significance to the people and State of NSW.

The statutory planning approval process for an SSD is different to that for other types of development.

The SSD application for this project will seek approval for the masterplan along with the location, scale and envelope of each building. The application will be accompanied by several supporting documents including an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the Secretary of the DPI&E environmental assessment requirements (SEARs).

### Can the design be amended following the lodgement of the SSD application?

Yes. The Department of Education's SSD application is expected to be lodged in March 2020 and is an important project milestone. The application will be on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and the community will be notified when it is available for viewing.

Before the SSD application is determined, amendments can be made to improve the design, reduce the impacts of the project, and / or respond to issues if required. Modifications can also be made following the SSD approval. Amendments and modifications may lead to an extended project completion date.

The project team will continue to prepare the staging plans and detailed design of each building during the assessment period.

### How are we addressing capacity at the Chatswood Public School?

The Department is aware of the enrolment pressure on Chatswood schools and in particular, Chatswood Public School. As such, the Department is committed to meeting enrolment growth and has developed a catchment wide strategy to manage enrolment demand at Chatswood, this includes adjustment to the boundaries of all surrounding schools, including Lindfield Learning Village.

Planning is underway for a new primary school in the Chatswood area. The Department is currently investigating site options, including a NSW Department of Transport site on Mowbray Road. This new school will create an additional 1000 primary school places in Chatswood.

To manage current enrolment pressure at Chatswood Public School, the Bush Campus located at Chatswood High School will continue to operate as long as required.

Meanwhile, Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School will be upgraded to ensure students have an optimal learning environment.

### What are the different phases of a School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) project?

The chart below indicates the various stages of an SINSW project.



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