Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing $6.7 billion over four years to deliver more than 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.

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.

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

- more than 150 new and refurbished learning and teaching spaces
- increased quality active play space currently allocated to both schools
- specialist teaching facilities such as maths, science and art rooms
- dedicated performing arts spaces and music rooms at the high school
- new sports facilities and recreational areas
- new libraries and administration facilities.

An animated fly-through of the proposed upgrades can be viewed at https://youtu.be/pCy1tvMXCE0.

Progress summary

The submissions for the SSD application have been published by DPIE and can be found here: https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/10561.

The request for tender for the design and construction of the upgrades at both schools has now closed and tenders will be evaluated. A tender will be awarded in coming months but work will not start until the outcome of the SSD application is known.

A works notification was distributed to the school community and nearby residents about maintenance work that has started on the existing hall at Chatswood High School. The work includes reroofing and painting and is separate to the proposed upgrade.

Chatswood Public School staff recently met with an educational learning specialist to discuss the process of transitioning to the new facilities once construction is complete.

Next steps

- The project team will lodge a Response to Submissions report with DPIE to address the issues raised by submissions to the SSD application.
- The project team will also review the tender submissions for the design and construction works at both schools.
- An additional demountable classroom for the high school will be placed to the north of the oval at Chatswood High School to accommodate students during construction. This work will take place outside of school hours and be completed before the start of Term 2 holidays.
- Construction of Building R is anticipated to start shortly after the Complying Development Certificate is achieved, scheduled for late 2020. The new building will facilitate the staged delivery of the project by providing 18 new permanent classrooms and four support permanent classrooms, ahead of the work on other parts of the school.
- The Intensive English Centre is scheduled to be relocated to St Ives High School for Day 1, Term 4, 2020.
Frequently asked questions

What does the proposed design for Chatswood Public School consider?
The proposed Public School design considers the needs of the school and local community, combined with the complexities of the site, the area’s distinctive character and surrounding properties.

How does the proposal address enrolments at Chatswood Public School?
The Department of Education has modified the original proposal to deliver a design that accommodates current enrolment numbers in 60 learning spaces across the new and existing buildings. The Public School also has the opportunity to retain the Bush Campus located at Chatswood High School for as long as required.

What is happening with the new primary school for Chatswood?
The Department has developed a strategy to manage enrolment demand in Chatswood including a commitment to building a new public school nearby.

It is too early to confirm the location or timeline for the new school, however early planning is underway to consider Chatswood’s demographic trends, educational needs, catchment boundaries, potential school site sizes, transport links, and partnership opportunities. Included in this early planning is a site investigation around Transport for NSW’s Sydney Metro site on Mowbray Road.

The Department remains committed to keeping the community informed as this project progresses.

What is the Department of Education’s policy for enrolments?
All primary schools and most high schools have designated local enrolment areas. Every child is entitled to be enrolled at the government school that is designated for the intake area within which the child’s home is situated and that the child is eligible to attend.

All public schools ensure there are enough places for students in their local enrolment area. Schools may accept enrolments from outside their designated area if places are available. If the demand for local enrolment exceeds the number of places available, out-of-area enrolments will not be available.


Chatswood Public School and Chatswood High School manage enrolments in line with the department’s policy.

For more information contact:
School Infrastructure NSW
Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 1300 482 651
www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au