

Condong Public School

Planning update | March 2023

Dear staff, parents, and carers,

The NSW Government is committed to rebuilding flood impacted schools in the Northern Rivers region, ensuring we build back better with flood resilient schools for local students and local communities. As part of this commitment, a project is underway to rebuild Condong Public School.

Progress Summary

We have completed investigations into the viability of rebuilding the school at Condong and can now confirm our intention to lodge a development application (DA) for rebuilding Condong Public School back at the original school site.

The assessment included:

- a review of permissible flood heights and potential limitations of the existing school site,
- a review of options such as remaining at Murwillumbah South or rebuilding at a new location,
- outcomes of consultation with the school community in Term 4 2023; and
- further discussions with Tweed Council about issues that will need addressing as part of our DA.

As previously communicated at our consultation sessions with staff and parents in Term 4 2023, to rebuild a more flood resilient school, we will need to replace all buildings on the site with new raised buildings. This includes the original school building.

Next Steps

- A Project Reference Group (PRG) will be created. The PRG is made up of representatives including school staff, a school community representative, and architects. The PRG will collaboratively review and endorse each design phase, including the masterplan, concept design and pre-planning design.
- We will share design schemes with the school community at an information session before they are finalised.
- Once designs are finalised and planning requirements are addressed, we will submit a DA to Tweed Council for rebuilding Condong Public School. The DA will be placed on public exhibition as part of council's assessment process.
- Once approvals are in place, construction is expected to take about 6 months.

Work at Murwillumbah South

We have been working with the school to make the former Murwillumbah South Infants School as enjoyable as possible for Condong Public School students and staff while they are there.

The Regional Office have provided new handball courts, wider pathways, and fencing to stop balls escaping from the school grounds. Artificial turf has also been laid in the playground to make it more usable for students. Planning to provide fencing around the artificial turf playground, new playground activity areas and outdoor tables is underway.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in consultation workshops during Term 4 2023. We will keep the Condong Public School community updated throughout the planning, design, and construction of their rebuilt school.

If you have questions or concerns you can also contact us via 1300 482 651 or schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.gov.au.

