

# Kingscliff High School

## Works notification

26 October 2020

Kingscliff High School is being upgraded to provide new permanent teaching spaces and core facilities to cater for growth in the area.

### Upcoming excavation work

From Monday 9 November 2020 we will be undertaking archaeological investigation works at the school as part of a required Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA). This work will involve digging and refilling approximately 25-30 small test pits across the school site.

Excavation work is anticipated to take five days to complete but may take longer if any objects of interest are found. Work will take place between 7:30am and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday. Where possible pits will be dug by hand using shovels, however in some cases excavating machinery may need to be used for short periods of time – not in excess of two hours per day. Test areas will be cordoned off during digging to ensure student and public safety.

The test pits will be dug by a team of archaeologists with monitoring by representatives of the local Aboriginal community. Our site manager will work closely with the school principal to minimise disruption to school operations.

### Changes to car park arrangements

There will be some temporary changes to the staff car park to enable excavations to be conducted safely. This is likely to result in additional vehicles parking on neighbouring streets during the work period.

On **Monday 9 November and Tuesday 10 November 2020**, the rear section of the carpark will be closed from 7:30am to 4:30pm. Staff will still be able to access the front section of the car park through the front gate and main access road as usual. Approximately 57 car parking spaces will remain available.

On **Wednesday 11 November 2020** the majority of the car park will be closed from 7:30am to 4:30pm. Staff will be able to enter the car park through the main gate and access road as usual. Approximately 23 car parking spaces will be available.

The drop-off zone will continue to operate as normal.



## Frequently asked questions

### What is an ACHA?

In NSW any organisation that is proposing to carry out work which has the potential to harm an Aboriginal object or a declared Aboriginal place is legally required to carry out an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) to determine, investigate, assess and report on any impact that may be caused by the work. The ACHA process includes liaison with representatives of the local Aboriginal community and archaeological work to identify objects or materials of cultural significance within the project area. The ACHA report will form part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project which is required for planning approval and will be submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment as part of the State Significant Development (SSD) application.

### What are the test pits for?

In many cases, objects or materials of cultural significance are buried underground. The ACHA process involves examining the current surface of the project area, but also undertaking careful excavations to identify what is in the under-lying soil. Digging a large number of test pits in a systematic grid across the site allows us to identify with more confidence areas where Aboriginal objects or materials may or may not be present.

### Where will the test pits be dug?

Test pits will be dug approximately 20 metres apart across the school site as shown in the attached map. This is proposed by the archaeologist consultant, and the final number and location of test pits will be determined once an on-site review provides a greater understanding of the area. In most cases the pits will be 50 centimetres long by 50 centimetres wide and 1 metre deep although the size may be expanded where additional investigation is needed.

### For more information contact:

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## Map of excavations

Blue dots indicate expected test pit locations

