

# Meadowbank Education Precinct

## Community Update Newsletter – November 2018

### NEW FACILITIES FOR:

**1,000**

PRIMARY  
STUDENTS

**1,500**

SECONDARY  
STUDENTS

**120**

INTENSIVE  
ENGLISH  
CENTRE  
STUDENTS

CONSTRUCTION  
STARTS

**2019**



CONSTRUCTION  
ENDS

**2021**



### Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is spending \$6 billion over four years to deliver more than 170 new and upgraded schools. This includes an additional \$160 million in 2018/19 as part of the record \$747 million maintenance investment announced last year. This is the biggest investment in public school infrastructure in the history of NSW.

### Plans for the Meadowbank Education Precinct site

NSW Department of Education is working with TAFE NSW to create the Meadowbank Education Precinct. The Precinct will provide opportunities for educational pathways to be created for students from kindergarten right through to completing a bachelor degree or diploma at TAFE NSW.

We are continuing to progress the concept design for the Meadowbank Education Precinct and investigate concerns highlighted by the community around potential traffic congestion, parking and sporting facilities.

While we are continuing this work, the demolition of parts of the northern end of TAFE NSW Meadowbank will start by the end of this year.

### Map of the demolition work area



### Site establishment and start of work

Site establishment prepares the site so work can begin.

As part of the site establishment, we will;

- erect construction fencing
- install the site office and work sheds
- relocate services, such as electricity
- deliver equipment and materials

Site establishment work will start in early December 2018 and will take place between 7am and 5pm Monday to Friday and between 8am and 1pm on Saturday. Demolition work will start soon thereafter and be carried out in stages in coordination with TAFE NSW.

We are here to make sure that work is completed safely and efficiently and we will minimise impacts on the community at every opportunity, particularly the Meadowbank campus community and neighbouring residents and businesses.



### **Meadowbank Education Precinct – School Community Feedback**

Thank you for sharing your questions, ideas and concerns with us. More than 120 community members participated in our two information drop in sessions at Meadowbank Public School on 31 July 2018 and Marsden High School on 1 August 2018. In addition to the one-on-one chats with the project team, we've heard from more than 300 community members via our online survey. We've heard a wide range of views on a number of topics.

As we progress with designing the Precinct, it is important for us to continue engaging with the community.

#### **Traffic**

We are working with traffic engineers to collect data and develop solutions to make sure we design the traffic to flow in and around the Precinct.

#### **Environment**

Dealing with the noise from trains in the design of the schools is an important aspect of the project. Noise from trains has been considered in the building design - and the building has been positioned away from the rail line. The building has also been positioned to preserve many of the significant trees on the site.

#### **Open space**

Open space on the Precinct grounds is important to your school communities. We are working with our design team to investigate how to maximise the open space without disrupting the local habitat.

#### **Transport and parking**

The Meadowbank Education Precinct is conveniently located near a train station. The use of dedicated school buses will also be considered in planning. All staff, parents, students, and visitors are encouraged to find sustainable travel options to reach the Precinct. We also recognise that driving will be an alternative mode of travel chosen by some parents and staff. This will be considered in the design.

#### **Population growth**

The Precinct is just one part of a major plan to cater for population growth in Ryde and across NSW. School projects in Ryde and its surrounds include the Macquarie Park Education Precinct and a new primary school at Smalls Road, as well as upgrades for West Ryde Public School, Denistone East Public School and Kent Road Public School.

#### **School design**

Meadowbank Primary School and Marsden High School will each have a dedicated entry, administration, canteen, library and hall. Marsden High School will also include the Wattamattagal Learning Centre.

#### **Sporting facilities for the schools**

We understand that sporting facilities are important to both schools. We're looking at a range of possible sporting facility options.

## More questions

We included answers to many frequently asked questions in the first update (you can view them online [schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au](https://schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au)). Below we have responded to more frequently asked questions raised during community engagement.

### Why not keep Marsden High School open as well as open a new school?

The existing school buildings at Marsden High School can't be easily modified and there are many demountable classrooms. Relocating Marsden High School to the Meadowbank Education Precinct means teachers and students will have access to new contemporary teaching facilities and flexible learning spaces.

### How will the Kiss and Drop zones work?

Student safety is a top priority in designing the new Meadowbank Education Precinct. Community input will be key in how the new drop off and pick up zone/s will be designed. Parents and carers have a responsibility to drive safely and comply with the rules – but we also recognise the opportunity to design these zones to be as quick, easy and safe as possible for busy parents and carers.

We've already heard from many parents and carers, teachers and Kiss and Drop volunteers with ideas on how to make this work safely – thank you.

### Will there be parking in the Precinct?

We recognise that driving will be an occasional or only alternative for some parents and carers and staff. Rest assured that parking will be provided at the Meadowbank Education Precinct – we are working with our traffic engineers to determine the number of spaces that will be required.

### What will be happening with free play areas like an oval?

A key feature of this Precinct is to balance green space and sporting facilities. We're looking at a range of outdoor spaces for both schools – quiet spaces, open green spaces, structured sporting spaces and creative spaces.

### What will happen to the zoning/catchment of the area?

The Meadowbank Education Precinct is currently in the catchment zone for both Marsden High School and Meadowbank Public School. There are no plans to change this – but zoning is reviewed regularly, and zone changes are made if there are significant population changes.

### Is TAFE NSW Meadowbank closing?

No, TAFE NSW Meadowbank is not closing. TAFE NSW Meadowbank will continue to operate.

### Will the Precinct be in close proximity to an electricity substation?

The Ausgrid zone substation in Meadowbank is a safe distance of more than 60 metres away from the closest point of the proposed footprint for the new school at the Meadowbank Education Precinct.

### What consideration will be given to students in Year 12 in 2021?

We are planning a detailed transition process to minimise impacts to all students.

### What will happen to the roles of the two principals and teaching staff at both schools, as well as office staff and general assistants?

All our permanent staff will be able to move to the new site. No permanent staff member will lose his or her job as a result of the relocation process.

### Why is there already construction work currently taking place at the TAFE NSW Meadowbank campus? Why can I already hear construction noise?

TAFE NSW is undergoing work to enable the Meadowbank Education Precinct. The work currently taking place at TAFE NSW Meadowbank is largely internal fit-outs and associated alterations to existing buildings on the campus.

External work includes a new storage facility next to the western boundary of the site and an outdoor learning/play area in the external space between Buildings A and B on the Meadowbank campus.

### What do you mean by education pathways between the school and TAFE NSW Meadowbank?

TAFE NSW and the NSW Department of Education are working together to create the Meadowbank Education Precinct.

Creating an education precinct will mean school students gain greater exposure to vocational education and provides an opportunity to study on the one campus from the time they start kindergarten right to completing a bachelor degree or diploma at TAFE NSW.

### Will TAFE courses be impacted?

There is no plan for any courses to cease delivery as a result of the changes taking place at TAFE NSW Meadowbank. Course offerings will be maintained – however Boat and Ship Building is being relocated to a refurbished space at Ultimo in December 2018.

### You're invited to...community information sessions

We would like to invite the Meadowbank and Marsden school communities, our new and existing neighbours and the broader community to the next Meadowbank Education Precinct community information sessions. At these sessions we will update the community on the latest design, including our solutions to questions raised by the community.

These information sessions are a drop-in format. There is no formal presentation. You can come at any time to talk to the project team.

**Tuesday 11 December 5-7.30pm at Meadowbank Public School, Thistle Street, Ryde**

**Thursday 13 December 6-8.30pm at Marsden High School, 22a Winbourne Street, West Ryde**

We are committed to working together with our school communities, TAFE NSW and other stakeholders. Your feedback on this exciting project is important to us.

#### For more information contact:

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