



Middle Head – Gubbuh Gubbuh – Environment Education Centre Project update | March 2023

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$8.6 billion in school infrastructure over the next four years, continuing its program to deliver 160 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. This builds on the more than \$9.1 billion invested in projects delivered since 2017, a program of \$17.7 billion in public education infrastructure.

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.

Project overview

School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) is planning a project to deliver Middle Head – Gubbuh Gubbuh – Environmental Education Centre (EEC) in Sydney Harbour National Park. The project aims to support the cultural values of the existing site and increase its use by providing facilities for up to 120 visiting students (K-12) on any given day.

The project includes:

- one covered outdoor learning area (COLA)
- 2 general learning areas within the existing heritage cottage (Soldiers Institute)
- staff facilities, student amenities and storage.

SINSW is working with partners to deliver facilities that meet the needs of the wider community while recognising and respecting the heritage of the existing site. The final scope of the project is subject to planning approvals. Further detail will be shared as the project continues through the design process and into project delivery.

Progress summary

Planning to deliver the Middle Head – Gubbuh Gubbuh – EEC is underway. In early 2023, SINSW consulted with Heritage Council of NSW to determine preferred concept design options. Development of a heritage works application (Section 60) is underway under the Heritage Act 1977 to review the project proposal including historic and Aboriginal cultural heritage impact.

On 28 February 2023, Heritage Council of NSW Approvals Committee met to review and provide advice on the proposed facilities.

Next steps:

- Heritage Council of NSW Approvals Committee to provide presentation outcome to SINSW.
- Finalise EEC concept designs in collaboration with NPWS and other stakeholders and consultation with the wider community prior to submitting a Review of Environmental Factors (REF).
- Finalise and lodge a Section 60 works application to Heritage Council NSW.
- Develop and lodge a REF and Sustainability Assessment for NPWS consideration by mid-2023.

We will continue to keep the community updated as the planning phase progresses. For all updates regarding the project at Middle Head, please visit the School Infrastructure NSW website: schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/m/middle-head-environment-education-centre

If you have any queries regarding Middle Head Environmental Education Centre, please call 1300 482 651 or email schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au.

