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.

Project overview

A project is underway to deliver a new primary school on Estella Road in Estella, Wagga Wagga to support the growing community. The school will include:

- 16 new flexible learning spaces
- a library, hall, canteen and covered outdoor learning area (COLA)
- administration and staff facilities.

The new school is designed to accommodate up to 480 students from K-6. The site for the new school will be integrated with the Charles Sturt University campus.

Progress summary

Main construction works are progressing well. Earthworks are complete and the school buildings have been delivered and installed on site.

Design for Manufacture Assembly (DfMA) building methods were used, including constructing school buildings offsite. This reduces the impact to local residents and saves time when compared to traditional builds.

Next steps

Planned works over the coming month include:

- the exterior façade, finishing the steel framework and internal fit-out of the admin building and hall
- the exterior façade and roofing of the shared-use building and library
- forming of external walkways.

Welcome to the new Principal

Tracy Delaney has been appointed foundation Principal of the new primary school in Estella, Wagga Wagga. Local resident, Tracy has been principal of nearby Junee Public School for the past two and a half years.

In the coming weeks, Tracy will be contacting members of the community to introduce herself, to discuss her vision of building a collaborative learning environment, and start taking enquiries about enrolment at the new school opening Term 1 Week 1 2021.
Change in construction hours

In line with the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment (COVID-19 Development – Construction Work Days) Order 2020, School Infrastructure NSW construction sites can now operate on weekends and public holidays during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is to allow workers to abide by social distancing rules while on construction sites by distributing building work across the week.

In line with this order, from Saturday 5 September weekend construction hours for this project will be Saturday and Sunday 7:00am to 6:00pm inclusive of Public Holidays. School Infrastructure NSW will ensure work is considerate of neighbours with noise kept to a minimum.

Keeping you updated

We will keep you updated and provide more information about construction in the coming months. You can contact us using the information below.

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

Frequently asked questions

What is Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA)?

DfMA is a design and construction process combining off-site and on-site assembly to deliver infrastructure. This process allows better use of limited land supply and minimises impact to schools and local communities, as new permanent buildings and upgrades are delivered in shorter timeframes.

What are the benefits of DfMA?

- Time savings
- Minimises impact on school operations
- Improved health, safety & productivity
- Upskills the workforce
- Improved sustainability
- Opportunity to reduce cost

Will the school be completed in time?

The forecast completion for the school is late 2020.

Will street parking be impacted during construction?

There will be minimal impacts to street parking as there will be parking available on site for workers. The impact of our project on the local community is considered in our planning. We work with councils and the community to identify issues and put in place mitigation measures.

What steps will be taken to control noise and dust impacts?

Any activity that could exceed approved construction noise management levels is managed in strict accordance with the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

Dust is minimised with hoarding, shade cloth and spraying water.

How will traffic be managed?

Traffic management will be in place where required for the safety of the local community and workers. Traffic controllers will be used to manage entry and exit of vehicles to and from the construction site as necessary. Vehicles will give way to pedestrians at all times.

When will enrolments be accepted?

Information about enrolments for the new school will be available in the coming months. For general information on how to enrol in NSW public schools, please visit https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools-going-to-a-public-school/enrolment.

If you would like to express an interest in enrolments at the new school, please contact Tracy at the Wagga Wagga Education Office on 6937 3812 or email tracy.delaney@det.nsw.edu.au.

What is the school catchment/enrolment area?

The NSW Department of Education has confirmed the school catchment area for the new primary school. The catchment for the new primary school was informed by demographic advice about projected enrolments in the Estella area and in consultation with local primary school Principals. The Department’s process for enrolments in public primary schools will apply.

For a closer look at the catchment go to my.education.nsw.gov.au/school-finder.