



Artist impression of the new multi-purpose building

# Newcastle Education Campus

Project update | September 2022

## 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

Located on the main Newcastle High School site, the Newcastle Education Campus (NEC) will cater for the growing population in the region by delivering: 37 new permanent learning spaces; 5 new support learning spaces; and a new library, multi-purpose facility (hall), canteen and science laboratories.

## Progress Summary

The project has four major design phases: masterplanning, concept design, schematic design and detailed design. Masterplanning and concept designs have been completed and we are currently continuing to develop the schematic design.

Early site investigations took place during the Winter school holidays. These tests included drilling and testing of ground conditions to inform the planning and design of the new and upgraded facilities.

We've started transport assessments in order to develop a school transport plan. These assessments include reviewing existing public transport options, current modes of transport to school, travel demand, and local road facilities.

We've also started other studies, including flood modelling, upgrades to utility connections, arborist reporting on the trees and designing temporary school accommodation.

## For more information contact:

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We've made progress with an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment. Archaeological consultants have undertaken a review of the history of the site and consulted with the Registered Aboriginal Parties.

We conducted Connection with Country workshops and had the privilege of working with representatives from the traditional custodians of the land, the Awakabal people. Through these workshops we have identified ways in which we can incorporate design elements that celebrate the rich history of the first nations people while supporting Aboriginal students.

### Next steps

Work will continue to refine the schematic design of the facility in consultation with the school, architects, engineers, planners, consultants, the department's technical stakeholder group and other Government agencies. This will allow us to properly consider the educational, operational and service delivery requirements of the school while maintaining the heritage of the site and surrounds.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage assessments will continue with archaeological investigations starting in the September school holidays.

This project will apply for planning approval through the State Significant Development (SSD) application process to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). The SSD application is currently being prepared and will be lodged in late 2022. We invite community feedback prior to submitting the SSD application.

### Invitation to community information session 19 September 2022

We are committed to ensuring that the school and local community are kept informed about the progress of this project. Your feedback is important to us.

We will be holding a drop-in community information session on Monday 19 September 2022 in the Newcastle High School library.

This information session provides an opportunity for the school and community to learn more about the new facilities and ask questions of the project team. You can attend anytime between 4.00 pm and 6.00 pm, as this will not be a presentation. Access to the library will be through the main entrance off Parkway Ave. In the interest of public safety we encourage anyone attending to wear a mask.

### How can I keep up to date about this project?

Stay up to date by visiting the project webpage <https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/n/newcastle-education-campus.html> or scan the QR code below.

For more information or to make a comment please email us at [schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au) or phone 1300 482 651 during business hours.



### For more information contact:

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