New high school for Googong Project update | July 2025

Image caption: Artist impression of the new school entry



Investing in our schools

As part of the NSW Government's plan to rebuild public education, the 2025-26 Budget is delivering \$2.1 billion for new and upgraded schools in regional NSW. This targeted investment will ensure growing communities get access to a world class public education.

Project overview

A project is underway to deliver a new high school for the growing community in Googong. The new high school will include:



modern classrooms including facilities for specialist support classes



specialist classrooms for science, wood and metal workshops, performing arts and hospitality



multipurpose hall and canteen



sports field



multipurpose sports courts



library



staff parking



administration facilities



Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 1300 482 651

schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au



Progress summary

- We are pleased to announce the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) planning application
 has been approved. The REF was publicly exhibited from 19 March to 15 April 2025 and was
 assessed by the department's Planning Assessment team. The REF will be published on the
 NSW Planning Portal https://edu.nsw.link/NewGoogongHS-REF.
- The design finalisation and construction (DF&C) contract for the new school has been awarded to Hindmarsh Construction Australia.

Next steps

- Start detailed design with Hindmarsh Construction Australia.
- Now that the construction contractor has been engaged, we can confirm that site
 mobilisation and establishment works will occur in mid 2025 with completion in late 2026
 ready for Day 1 Term 1 2027.





Artist impressions were shared with the community at the information session on 27 March 2025. To view the information boards presented, visit: edu.nsw.link/NewGoogongHS-infoboards



Frequently asked questions

What is the size capacity of the school?

The site for the new high school for Googong exceeds the minimum size set by the department's site selection guidelines. The high school will occupy approx. 5.4 ha of the overall 9 ha site owned by the department and will accommodate 700 students when opened.

Why aren't we building a bigger high school?

Like all NSW government agencies, we use the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's Common Planning Assumption population projections for NSW. This helps us to plan consistently for the people of NSW. It's an important step in distributing government resources equitably and efficiently.

When planning for new schools or the expansion of existing schools, School Infrastructure uses long-term population and short-term enrolment projections to guide future investment decisions, including the location and scale of building works to meet service needs.

The accommodation to be built will comply with the department's Education Facilities Standards and Guidelines (EFSG). The EFSG determines the size of the hall and the specialty teaching spaces to be constructed (which will include a woodwork workshop, kitchen and science facilities).

What facilities will be delivered?

The proposed design for the new school includes two three-storey buildings and a multipurpose hall for fitness, movement and performance. The school is arranged by learning units that are focused on discipline-based learning neighbourhoods that group subjects like science or visual arts. These are grouped in clusters, with specialist learning spaces.

What infrastructure will be provided to support the transport and access needs of the school community?

The Department of Education promotes sustainable travel opportunities, and the project includes several measures to support this, including:

- 5 wombat crossings to give pedestrians priority and increase the safety of students arriving by foot or bicycle
- 55 on-site car parking spaces for staff (including 2 accessible spaces)
- a dedicated school bus bay
- 17 kiss and drop bays, 133 m in length along Glenrock Drive with a separate 10 m long accessible space for kiss and drop south of the bus zone.
- 145 on-site bicycle and scooter racks (140 for students and 5 for staff)

What parking is available for students?

Active and green travel is encouraged for both students and teachers. Car parking spaces will be provided for staff on-site, accessed via Wellsvale Drive. There is no on-site parking for students.

What date will the school be ready for students?

We are planning for all works to be completed to enable the school to be open for Day 1 Term 1 2027.



What are the preventive measures to reduce disturbances due to traffic and noise of a new school?

To minimise disturbances, several preventive measures are being implemented as part of the school's planning and development process This includes for dedicated kiss and drop zones, a separate loading bay that will have specific times for access and various acoustic treatments and landscape setbacks to minimise noise impacts from the school.

How will construction noise be managed?

We will work with the construction contractors to manage impacts on the local community. We will ensure that neighbours are notified before work takes place.

What will the construction work hours be?

Working hours are determined by the REF, however, the hours for standard construction works are:

- 7 am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday
- 8 am to 1 pm on Saturdays
- no work on Sundays or public holidays.

We will notify the community if we need to perform unexpected out-of-hours works.



More information



You can find more information about the project at <u>edu.nsw.link/NewHSGoogong</u> or by scanning the QR code

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact School Infrastructure during business hours on the contact details below.

