



An example of facilities that we are building for students across NSW

Orange Grove Public School upgrade

Information Pack | March 2024

Orange Grove Public School is being upgraded and will include additional fit-for-purpose classrooms and upgraded core facilities to meet enrolment projections. The project will deliver:



New flexible classrooms



New administration and staff rooms



New multipurpose hall



New amenities

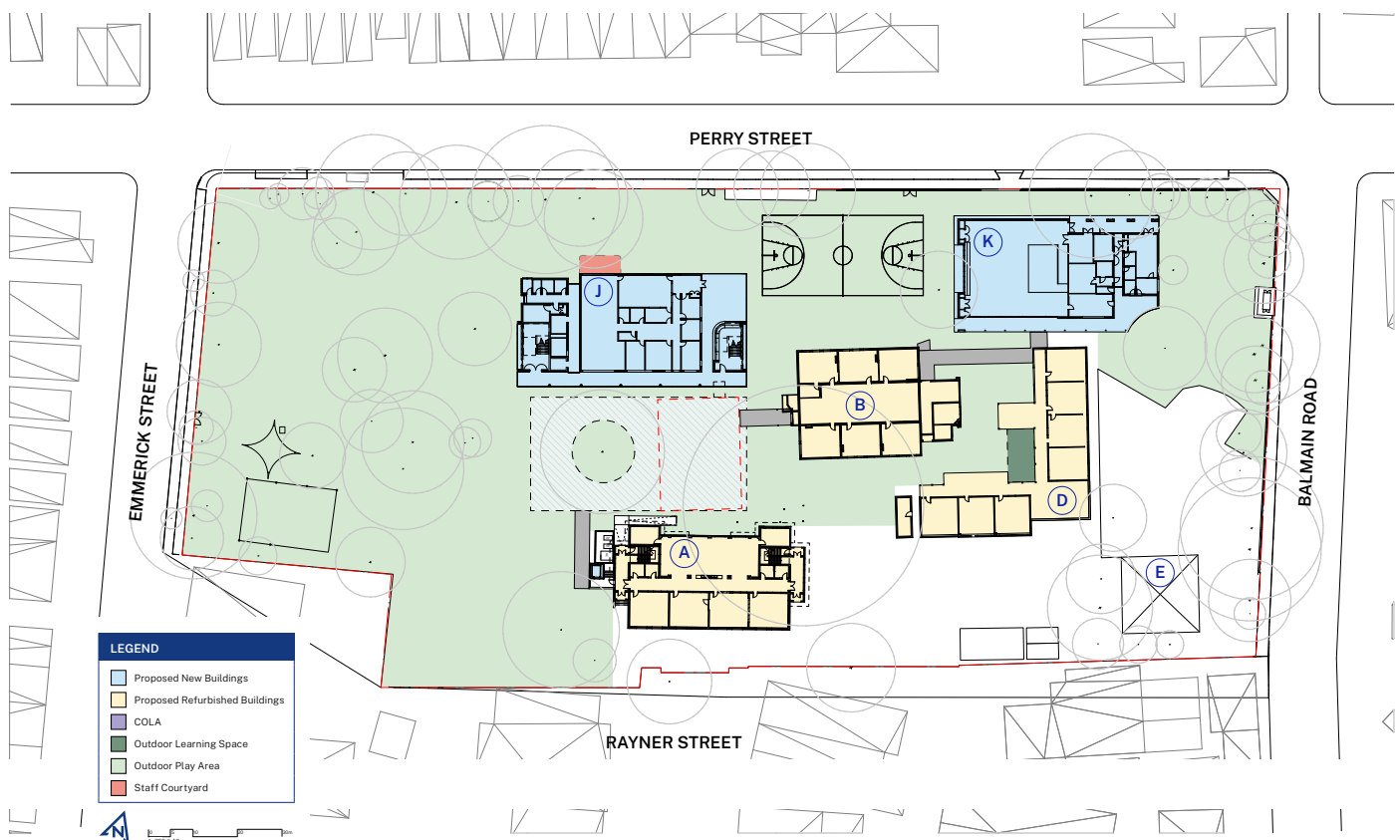


Landscaping

Masterplan update

Consultation about the masterplan for the upgrade of Orange Grove Public School took place in 2022 and throughout 2023 with multiple opportunities for the whole community to provide feedback. The latest masterplan reflects this feedback, addressing key areas of community concern and building on existing green space on the western side of the school.

The updated masterplan has been carefully developed by qualified industry professionals and subject matter experts. Extensive consideration of the existing buildings and other factors such as heritage significance, the Department of Education's Education Facilities Standards and Guidelines (EFSG), sustainability, cultural landscape significance, tree protection, school's operational needs and Inner West Council feedback. From this comprehensive exercise, the proposed location of the buildings in the updated masterplan presents the most viable option for the upgrades to be delivered within the project constraints.



The proposed plan

Building K

Building K will consist of a new school hall, canteen, Out of Hours School Care (OHSC) facilities, storage spaces and student amenities. The new hall will open toward the western play court and courtyard to the south through large openable doors to connect inside activities with the outside and enhance connectivity and access with the rest of the school.

The canteen, student amenities and OHSC located on the south and eastern sides of the building are linked to the courtyard space created between the new hall and existing buildings B and D. The verandah of the new hall building opens out to the eastern garden which will be reinterpreted as a productive garden, reflecting the school's important early history. Care has been taken to minimise the encroachment on this area, which is of high heritage significance. Details about the heritage significance of the site can be found on the August 2023 factsheet stored in the library section of the project's webpage.

Building J

The proposed new Building J is located where the library is currently situated, with the library relocating to Building B.

Building J will accommodate the new administration, staff room and amenities on the ground level with classrooms and amenities on the two levels above. The footprint of the building J has minimal impact on the green space to the west as existing demountable classrooms will be removed from this area. Although building J will be a 3-storey building, its height is designed to be approximately the same as the roof of the existing building A to its south.

Building B is proposed to become the new school library and special programs rooms.

Building D

Building D will receive internal upgrades with minimal structural changes to the original building aimed at reinstating the configuration of the original classrooms of 1927. The upgrade will host 7 classrooms, with upgraded Practical Activities Areas (PAA) and a new verandah. The new verandah space will reveal original timber posts and beams and provide level access into the classrooms and new practical activities areas. The amphitheatre will be rebuilt with physical access to the verandah space for both play and outdoor learning.

Building A

The ground floor of Block A will be repurposed to accommodate new classrooms and student amenities when the administration and hall functions are relocated to Blocks J and K. The existing amenities will be upgraded, and a lift will be added to the western side of the building. Two existing administration spaces will be reinstated as classrooms and the hall will provide a large flexible general learning space that can be split into two if required, providing a flexible space to cater for a range of learning activities.

Restoring green spaces

Landscaping will be restored to areas currently occupied by demountable buildings and extra trees will be planted along the Perry Street boundary. The area of the current usable open green spaces at Orange Grove Public School is 3850 sq metres, once the upgrade is completed and demountable buildings are removed, the school will benefit from an expected 4200 sq metres of usable green spaces.

Community use

Community access to the school is important and is part of our planning for the upgrade. The Orange Grove Organic Markets are a lively and thriving part of the local community and we will work with market organisers as we continue to plan for the upgrade. This will include how we can minimise impacts to operations during construction and consideration of benefits that the upgrades may provide to the markets, such as in amenities and landscaping.

The proposed new multipurpose hall can provide the community with a place for school performances, community sports or gatherings. Planning for its usage will be conducted in consultation with the school leadership team.

Site requirements

Multiple elements were carefully considered and analysed during the development of this masterplan and concept design.

Student projections

Demographic data provided by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) has informed the number of classrooms and sizing of core facilities as part of this upgrade.

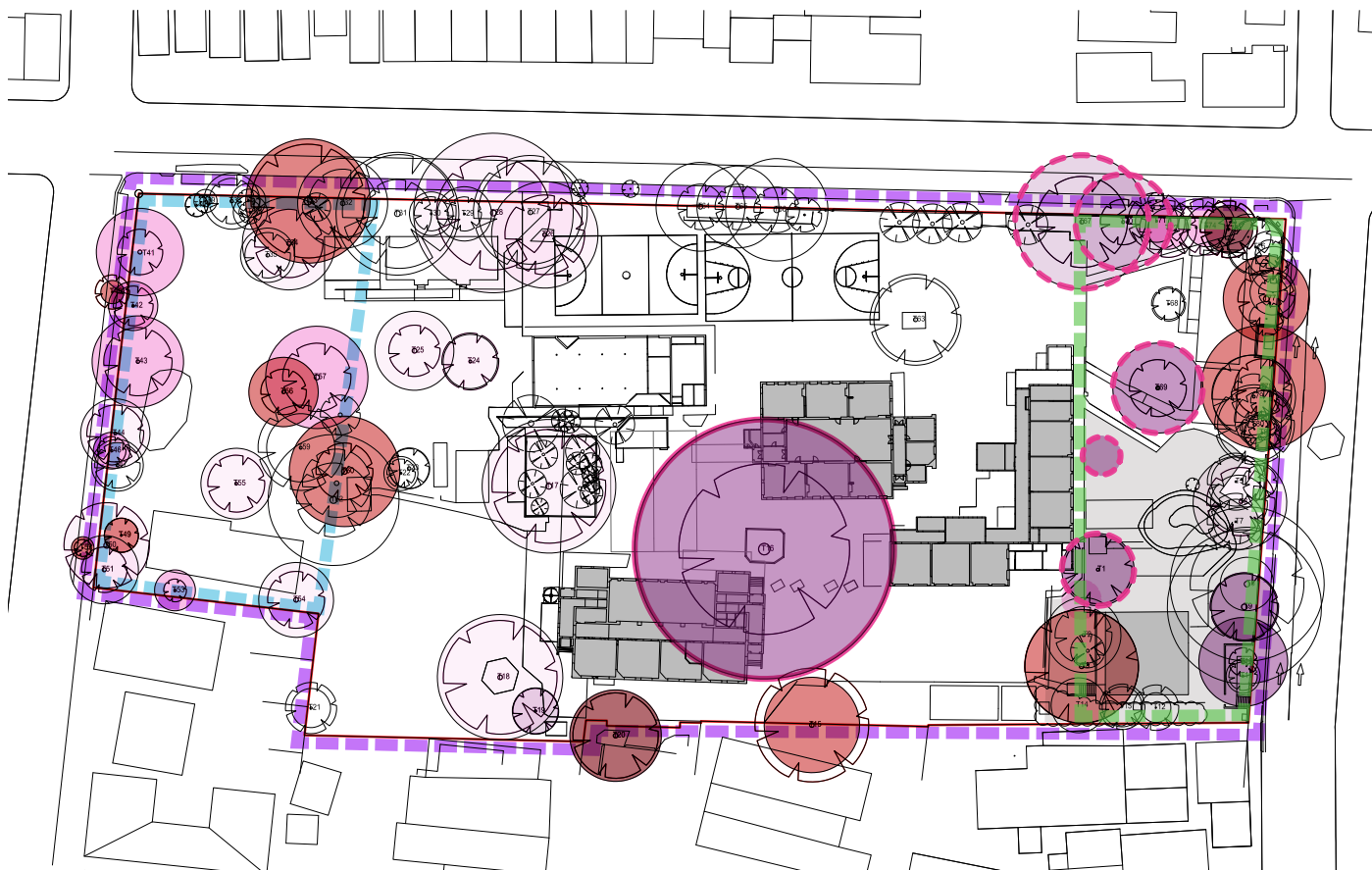
Cultural heritage of the school site

A Cultural Heritage Landscape specialist was engaged to undertake a cultural landscape assessment of the entire site. The results of this assessment classified the site into 3 different areas. See image below.

Area 1, located on the eastern side of the school, was considered to be of high cultural heritage significance. The former school gardens associated with the school teaching and learning curriculum in the agriculture and horticulture fields contain evidence about the evolution of the school gardens.

Area 2, located on the western side of the school grounds was identified to be of moderate significance as the extension of school grounds, post 1971 and is associated with the National Identity Period (1963-1979). In this area, a variety of plants were used to create an integrated and harmonious landscape setting.

Area 3 consists of the whole school grounds, noting the former Garry Owen Orangery to the east of Balmain Road, together with horticultural and agricultural productions of former School Gardens and plantings within the school grounds. Orange Grove Public School is listed on the Department of Education S170 heritage conservation register as an item of local heritage significance.



LEGEND

- Area 1 Former school gardens – High Significance
- Area 2 Extension of school grounds post 1971 – Moderate Significance
- Area 3 Whole of school grounds – High Significance
- Maybe associated with the landscape setting of Austenham House
- Associated with the former School Garden
- Criterion B Historical Association – High Significance

- Criterion B Historical Association – High Significance
- Criterion C Aesthetic Quality – High Significance
- Criterion C Aesthetic Quality – Moderate Significance
- Criterion Locale Association – High Significance
- Existing Buildings
- Pre-school site

School operations

The proposed location of the buildings to support school operational functions takes several factors into consideration in order to enhance the safety, security, pedagogical and general requirements of the school.

The location of the proposed new buildings will help create a functional environment which will enhance practical activities such as painting, school assemblies, school performances, canteen operations, outdoor activities and OHSC, by creating better interactions with the external environment. By having the proposed administration building centrally located at the entrance of the school, staff will have increased visibility of the school grounds and be able to better manage visitors before they enter the school grounds, providing added safety for students, staff and visitors.

The proposed location of the school hall allows for visitors attending performances or out of hours events, to enter and exit the school easily without needing to access the school's main areas. The proposed central location of the school library provides easy access for students and staff. The proposed new open spaces allow for outdoor areas to be used for different play groups and activities.

These elements have been welcomed by the school. The organisational model of the school is influenced by pedagogy, activity programming, school administration, teacher resources, student numbers and grouping. More information about the EFSG and how we build, and upgrade schools can be found at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/efsg>.

Next steps

We understand the importance of this upgrade for the students of Orange Grove Public School and will continue to work with local government and technical stakeholders, the school and the Project Reference Group (PRG) as the design evolves. In the schematic design phase, we consider input from staff and other stakeholders to finalise the form of buildings and functionality of internal spaces.

We will begin consulting with statutory planning professionals and relevant government agencies to determine the best planning pathway to deliver the project and develop the required documentation before starting the process to procure a building contractor and begin to create a construction program.

The community will be kept informed as we work through these stages via regular project updates and community information sessions.

FAQs

When will construction start and finish?

Once the statutory planning process is determined and a construction contractor is on board, a program of works will be established which will indicate timeframes.

How will this masterplan impact the markets operations?

We understand the importance of the Orange Grove Organic Markets and will work with the markets operator to develop a plan that minimises the impact of the upgrade to its operations.

Can the building locations be swapped around?

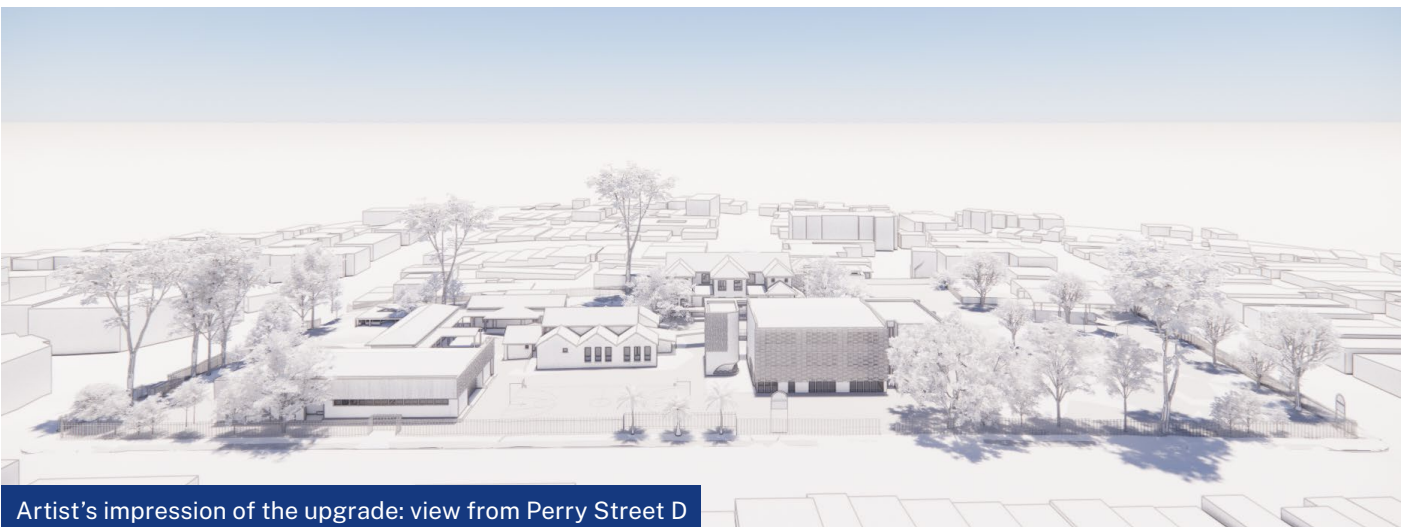
After careful consideration of the multiple factors required to deliver this upgrade, it was determined that the location for the buildings in this concept master plan is the most viable option for the project. Reasons include, consideration of existing buildings and functionality, feedback received from the school on operational matters, feedback received from the community about keeping the new building away from the green space on the western side of the site, EFSG, the required space for the buildings and planning aspects.

What will happen to the Eastern portion of the site where the historical gardens once were?

Consultation will take place with the school staff and students to determine the best way to utilise this space as part of outdoor learning program and sustainability.

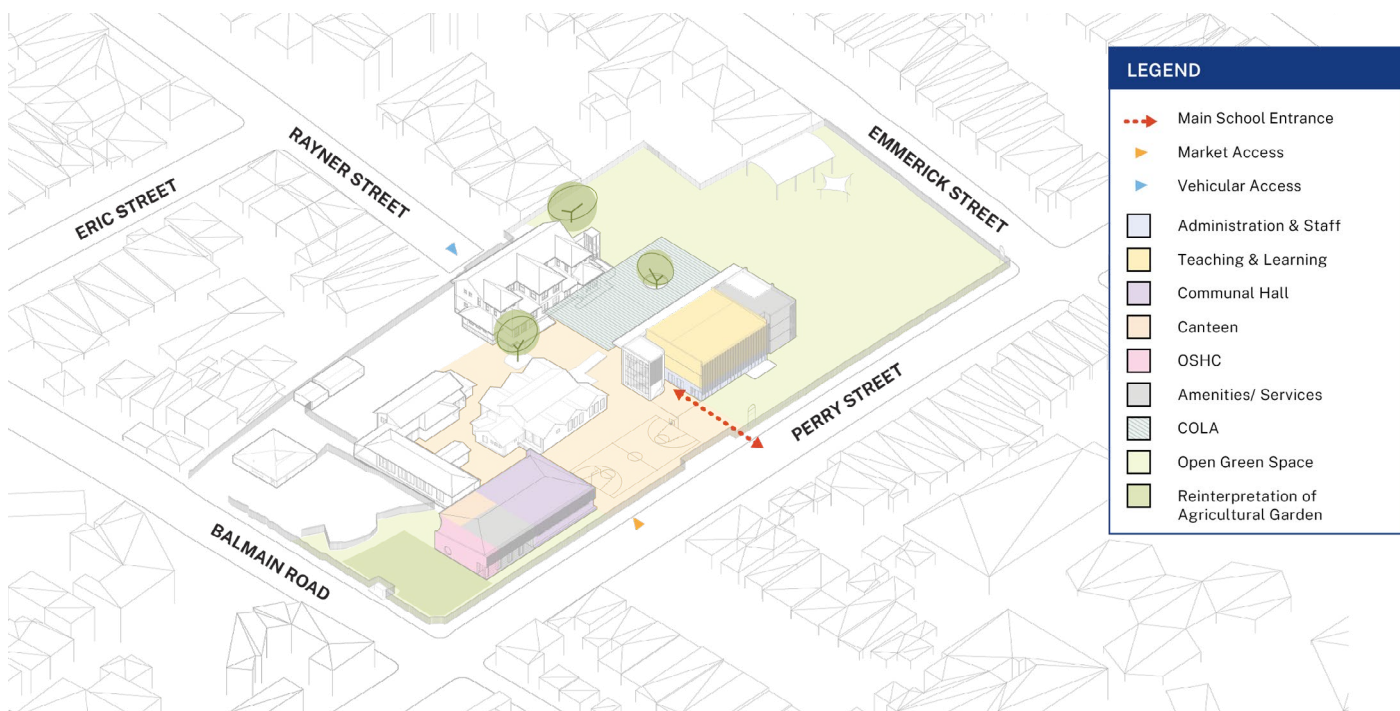
Has the size of the school hall changed?

The size of the school hall has been reduced from the earlier masterplan to meet current project requirements. In line with the EFSG, a medium size hall is 270 Sqm. In order to maximise the amount of open space, the size of the proposed school hall for Orange Grove Public School in the latest masterplan sits between large and medium, at 290 sqm.







Artist's impression of the upgrade: view from Perry Street D

Masterplan



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	Website Stay up to date by visiting the School Infrastructure NSW website schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au
	Email Contact the Community Engagement team by emailing schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au
	Phone Contact us between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday on 1300 482 651

	For a Translation and Interpreting Service call 131 450 and ask them to call the Department of Education - School Infrastructure NSW on 1300 482 651 .
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