



An example of flexible a learning space

Tumbulgum Public School

Project update | March 2024

Project overview

The NSW Government is committed to rebuilding flood impacted schools in the Northern Rivers region, ensuring we build back better with more flood resilient schools for local students and local communities.

As part of this commitment, a project is underway to rebuild Tumbulgum Public School, after it was extensively damaged during floods in early 2022.

Progress summary

As advised in our December 2023 Project Update, we have been working with architects, engineers and town planners to develop a shortlist of options for how we rebuild Tumbulgum Public School.

Several designs have been discussed with the school. The design team will now undertake the final stage of due-diligence and develop the preferred design. The preferred design proposes to include:

- Demolition of the existing ramps and replacement with new stairs and a lift for disability access.
- Demolition of the existing toilet block.
- Construction of a new raised building which will incorporate flexible learning spaces/classrooms. The raised building will also create a covered play / teaching space below. The building will be connected by a raised walkway.
- Refurbishment and raising of the original school building (Block A), for administration and staff spaces. The northern end of Block A is a later addition and will be demolished. More structural analysis is needed to confirm that raising Building A is viable.

We are working with Tweed Council to discuss issues will need to be addressed as part of our Development Application (DA) for rebuilding the school.

Next steps

- Structural investigations will commence to understand the viability of raising Block A
- A Project Reference Group (PRG) will be created. The PRG is made up of representatives including school staff, a school community representative, and architects. The PRG will collaboratively review and endorse each design phase, including the masterplan, concept design and pre-planning design.
- We will share design schemes with the school community at an information session before they are finalised.

- Once designs are finalised and planning requirements are addressed, we will submit a DA to Tweed Council. The DA will be placed on public exhibition as part of council’s assessment process.
- Once approvals are in place, construction is expected to take about six months.

Teaching and learning at Tumbulgum Public School

Tumbulgum Public School students will continue to learn from their temporary classrooms on the school site while their school is rebuilt. Our asset management team will remove construction fencing and return the front of the school to improve the play space for students while planning for the school rebuild is underway.

We will keep the school community updated throughout the planning, design, and construction of their rebuilt school. [You can find updates on our School Infrastructure NSW website.](#)

Thank you for your patience while we complete this important project. If you have questions or concerns you can contact us via 1300 482 651 or schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.gov.au.

