



Artist impression of Wee Waa High School. Indicative only.

Wee Waa High School

Project update

December 2021

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$7.9 billion over the next four years, continuing its program to deliver 215 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. 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 redevelop Wee Waa High School. The project will deliver new learning spaces, modern core facilities including a library and multipurpose hall, a new agricultural and environment centre, sports fields and sports courts as well as a new Indigenous Cultural Centre.

Progress summary

Thank you to the local residents that took the time to visit the Community Information Session in November to learn more about the project and speak to the project team. We welcome the community's feedback and submissions as part of the State Significant Development Application during the 28-day public exhibition.

Design workshops are ongoing with key stakeholders which will continue to inform the design of the agricultural and environmental centre at the Purcell Avenue site and the Indigenous Cultural Centre. A scope has been prepared for demolition of the existing buildings at Purcell Avenue and are assessing options for the future of the site.

Next steps

A demolition scope and plan for the buildings on the existing site in Purcell Avenue is underway and the concept design for the agricultural facilities will be finalised in consultation with key stakeholders.

We are preparing responses to the formal submissions made by the community and stakeholders on our development application. Our response to submissions report will be uploaded to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/42061>.

A Review of Environmental Factors (REFs) is being prepared for proposed flood mitigation works at the Mitchell Street site and we'll provide more information as this progresses.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW

Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 1300 482 651

www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au

NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure

What is a Review of Environmental Factors?

In 2017 the NSW Government introduced a new education-based State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) that aims to make it easier to provide new and upgraded education facilities for communities. Under the SEPP some development works can be carried out without development consent from council.

For the Wee Waa High School Redevelopment, the allowable works include construction of the upgraded agricultural facilities as well as some flood mitigation works to prepare the site for construction.

Before starting the works, we need to undertake a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) to determine whether there will be any potential impacts on the environment. We will inform adjacent neighbours and key stakeholders the scope of works and timing prior to beginning works on the site.

What will the flood mitigation works look like?

The flood mitigation works will include excavation, construction and landscaping of the stormwater flow channel at the Mitchell Street site, widening and deepening the existing stormwater drainage infrastructure towards the Namoi river, stockpiling of excavated fill within the site and some tree removal.

Neighbouring properties and key stakeholders will be notified before any works are scheduled to begin and we will endeavour to maintain minimal impact to the community.

What will happen at the Purcell Avenue site?

We are working to identify and assess potential options for the future of the Purcell Avenue site and buildings, these include a proposed demolition plan for some of the existing buildings and a concept design for the upgraded agricultural facilities. We will keep community informed as we progress through this process.

Connecting with our students

Engaging with the student community is a key priority for School Infrastructure NSW. The project's architects and builders held a presentation with high school students from years 9, 10 and 11, students from the primary school's years 5 and 6 as well as teachers from both schools. The workshops provided the students with the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas in response to the concept design of their new school.

The project team received valuable feedback and insight into what is important to students, this feedback will be incorporated into the design, where possible. We will continue to involve our students throughout the project to ensure that the new facilities address student needs and aspirations as well as enhance academic achievements.

Thank you for joining us

We would like to thank everyone that joined us at the Community Information Session and for providing formal feedback on the Development Application. We will provide an update once this is determined.

For more information visit the project webpage at <https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/w/wee-waa-high-school-redevelopment.html> or contact School Infrastructure NSW on the details below.

At the NSW Department of Education, we recognise the traditional custodians of the lands and waterways where we work and live. We celebrate the First Peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationship to Country and acknowledge the significance of Aboriginal cultures in Australia.

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