

Wee Waa High School redevelopment




Fact sheet

May 2022

As we progress towards the redevelopment of Wee Waa High School, understanding the local context and knowledge has been an important part of our approach. Ensuring that we get the process right is key as we deliver the redevelopment of Wee Waa High School.

This factsheet provides information about how we are addressing key areas specific to this project at this stage of the project. Please see previous factsheets on the School Infrastructure project webpage for information about key areas addressed during earlier stages of the project.

Wee Waa High School redevelopment	
 <p>Site location and flood mitigation</p>	<p>Open drainage channels run through the proposed site, which retain water due to natural elevation. We are fixing the site's water drainage by levelling and creating new drainage channels around it. We are also upgrading the drainage channel and pipes leading towards the Namoi river and adding an extra water pump at the town's levee.</p> <p>Digital modelling of this solution has shown that surrounding properties will also benefit from this work, in particularly during significant rain events. Refer to Information pack for more detail.</p>
 <p>Local collaboration</p>	<p>The SSD application process is complex and multilayered and we welcomed the feedback provided by all stakeholders including local community and government including Narrabri Shire Council and Transport for NSW (TfNSW). This feedback is sought during the planning process to ensure that all perspectives are assessed and any concerns are worked out in partnership with stakeholders. We are continuing to work with our local partners to address key elements of the application through, meetings, presentations, workshops and briefings.</p> <p>As an outcome of these engagements we have clarified details of the application, conducted further investigations and at times amended parts of the design. We will continue our engagement with our local partners throughout the project with the focus on providing the best outcome for our students and the broader Wee Waa community.</p>
 <p>Health and safety</p>	<p>As we build and upgrade schools across NSW, ensuring our students and staff safety and wellbeing is a priority for the department. During the planning stage of the project, the traffic and safety unit amongst other relevant areas from across the department as well as other agencies have informed the planning proposal. In the design phase, the project's architect has included a substantial design response which includes elements like circulation pathways for the safety and protection of students, open spaces across communal usage areas, security fencing and evacuation plans. As we build the new school, the builder will follow site specific health and safety protocols which includes managing a project risk register as well as safety briefings, communications and the projects work health and safety plan.</p> <p>To ensure safety and wellbeing continues to be at the forefront as we deliver this project, we have established a safety working group that will oversee strategies that have been put into place to ensure health and safety precautions continues as we finalise the design, build the school, transition students to the new sites and remove the existing temporary school setup at Wee Waa Public School. This will continue with the focus on student and staff wellbeing.</p>

 <p>Engaging with our students</p>	<p>Our students are at the centre of what we do and capturing their ideas, aspirations and knowledge is a key element of our work. A virtual presentation for students of Wee Waa High School was delivered by the architect, the builder and the School Infrastructure NSW statutory planner late in 2022. This presentation shared information about the concept design of their new school, planning process and guidance on how to make a formal submission during the 28-day exhibition period.</p> <p>A separate presentation was also held with some students from years 5 and 6 of Wee Waa Public School who had the opportunity to ask questions about the project and voice their opinions. The project team received valuable feedback and insight into what is important to the students and feedback gathered has been adopted into the design, where possible.</p> <p>We will continue to look for opportunities to involve our students as we deliver their new school.</p>
 <p>Connecting with country</p>	<p>We are continuing to seek guidance from the local Aboriginal community members including the Wee Waa Aboriginal Consultative Group (AECG) and WWLALC during the next stage of our design process. Guided by the principles of the NSW Government's Connecting with Country framework, we aim to ensure that the strength, diversity and richness of local Goimeroi culture and the connection with Country are respected, valued and embedded throughout the design of the new high school.</p> <p>To achieve this, we are conducting a series of workshops that invite local Gomeroi community and our student representatives to share on the best way to reflect Wee Waa's Gomeroi heritage in the design.</p>
 <p>Supporting local industry</p>	<p>Modern construction methods using lightweight structures and modular technology will be the preferred approach for this project. The method consists of combining the manufacture of building components, such as wall systems and facades, in a safe, clean and efficient factory environment off-site with onsite assembly. The parts will be transported to the school site on trucks and then assembled into place by local trades workers.</p> <p>We will be providing information about how to be part of assembling the new high school as the project progresses. More information can be found on School Infrastructure NSW's website in the 'What we do' tab or on the link below edu.nsw.link/MMC.</p>



For more information please visit the Wee Waa High School Redevelopment page on the link below or by following the QR code.

schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/w/wee-waa-high-school-redevelopment.html