

Wee Waa High School redevelopment

Fact sheet



November 2021





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. We have sought further guidance from a range of technical experts and the community as we worked through the process of submitting the State Significant Development (SSD) application.

This fact sheet aims to outline key factors that have been identified during the planning process and explains how we intend to address these.

Building for the future – Wee Waa High School redevelopment

 <p>Site location</p>	<p>Following a comprehensive option assessment process, the site on Mitchell Street adjacent to Wee Waa Public School has been identified as the preferred site for the Wee Waa High School redevelopment. This location will enhance learning opportunities for Wee Waa’s primary and secondary students, build on the strong bond shared by both schools and provide an opportunity for the broader community to benefit from modern facilities.</p> <p>With the challenges of the proposed site, we have commissioned further investigations during our planning. These findings coupled with feedback from the community and technical experts has informed the evolving concept design and solutions that address the site challenges.</p>
 <p>Design</p>	<p>The concept design has been finalised and submitted as part of the project’s planning application. The concept design responds to a wide range of inputs from technical experts and key stakeholders including Wee Waa High School staff, Narrabri Shire Council, the Project Reference Group, Transport for NSW and the NSW Government Architect.</p> <p>Environmental factors such as air quality, ventilation, natural lighting, accessibility, thermal comfort and acoustic performance have been considered in the design. Outcomes include the north facing courtyard, shading areas, and indoor and outdoor learning spaces and cross ventilation channels throughout the school.</p> <p>The recently appointed contractor will work with the project team and the Project Reference Group (PRG) to progress the design towards the schematic phase where technical detail will be developed.</p>

 <p>Flood Mitigation and Stormwater Drainage</p>	<p>As part of site investigations, detailed flood and stormwater modelling was conducted and a solution has been developed that addresses flood risk and stormwater flow at the site, whilst providing positive impact to surrounding properties.</p>
 <p>Improvement solution</p>	<p>The solution includes a landscaped stormwater flow channel along the southern and western boundaries of the site, and site grading. Digital modelling of the solution in relation to significant rain events has shown that surrounding properties will also benefit from this approach.</p>
 <p>Agriculture and Environment Centres</p>	<p>The agricultural learning facilities will be developed on the site of the existing agricultural plot on Purcell Avenue and form the basis of a separate planning application. This decision was made following modelling of the proposed site, community survey feedback and consultation with the School leadership team.</p> <p>It was identified that having the agricultural facilities on the Mitchell Street site posed significant limitations on size, functionality and cause environmental disruptions in the town centre. Upgrading the Purcell Avenue site will leverage existing agricultural infrastructure and facilities.</p> <p>An Environment Centre learning facility will sit alongside other specialised learning spaces at the Mitchell Street site to support theory-based learning and STEM agricultural program. STEM programs integrate elements from science, technology, engineering and mathematics and will focus on modern agricultural practices.</p> <p>More information about our STEM programs can be found here: education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/key-learning-areas/stem</p>
 <p>Construction method and materials</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 façades, 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>This approach can reduce on-site construction assembly time by up to 30 per cent and provide an opportunity for the local workforce to be involved in the assembling of components.</p>
 <p>Building site at Purcell Avenue</p>	<p>As part of the Wee Waa High School redevelopment plan, a budget has been allocated to demolish existing buildings and ensure the safe removal of all material at the Purcell Avenue site.</p> <p>Ongoing investigations at the Purcell Avenue site continue. The community will be notified about the planning process, site investigations and future use of the site.</p>



We thank the community for your support as we embark on this exciting project.

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

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