NSW Department of Education – School Infrastructure



Wentworth Point new high school Project update

August 2022

Investing in our schools

The NSW Government is investing \$8.6 billion in school infrastructure over the next four years, continuing its program to deliver 160 new and upgraded schools to support communities across NSW. This builds on the more than \$9.1 billion invested in projects delivered since 2017, a program of \$17.7 billion in public education infrastructure.

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.

Wentworth Point new high school

A new high school is being developed to cater for the growing population in the Wentworth Point, Sydney Olympic Park and Concord West communities. The school will be located on a part of 7-11 Burroway Road, Wentworth Point.

The high school will have flexible teaching and learning spaces for approximately 1,500 students as well as a multipurpose hall for sports and performance, outdoor spaces including landscaped recreation areas, games courts and canteen facilities.

Progress update

- An amended planning report outlining how the school will be delivered was lodged with the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) and public exhibition concluded on 6 July 2022.
- We have prepared the Response to Submissions report which is now available on the planning portal. Key concerns raised in the submissions and recent enquiries are answered on the following pages.
- Landcom will submit an application to Parramatta City Council to modify an existing development approval to relocate a road from its current approved location to the east of the school, and to identify the location of the future playing field.

For more information contact:

School Infrastructure NSW Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au Phone: 1300 482 651 www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au



What's next?

- DPE to grant consent to proceed with the State Significant Development and provide consent conditions.
- The main works contract will be awarded.
- Community information session.
- Early works construction starts.

Questions from the community

Below are the main questions that have been asked during the exhibition period for the Amendment to the State Significant Development. All previous questions and feedback have been considered in the response to submissions report available on the <u>Planning Portal</u>. If you have any further questions, see the resources on our website or contact us via the details at the bottom of this page.

How many students will the school fit?

The school will have permanent teaching spaces for approximately 1500 students. The school is expected to open with either year 7 or year 7 and 8 cohorts, with the school population growing incrementally year after year.

Why does the amendment to the SSD show a maximum of 850 students?

The school is fully funded for 1500 students. To start construction and open the school as soon as possible our plans must match the current masterplan for the Peninsula which shows the proposed 'Ridge Road' going through the school site where the hall, sports courts and playing field will be. Until this modification (currently with City of Parramatta) is approved, the play space in the school will only be adequate for up to 850 students.

The teaching spaces for all 1500 students is part of 'phase 1' construction. We anticipate phase 1 and 2 will happen concurrently once approved. Due to the staggered enrolments of year groups it is not expected the school will reach 850 students until well after both phases of the school are complete.

How will the PDHPE requirements be met at the new high school?

The PDHPE requirements for the year 7-10 curriculum includes a total of 300 hours. This includes 50% spent in classroom activities and 50% in physical activities. The physical component of PDHPE is not solely dependent on the playing field, with the hall, fitness studio and outdoor courts also being accessed, as well as separate arrangements with the school to use nearby sporting facilities where relevant.

The number of year 11-12 students undertaking the senior subjects with a physical component will depend on the interests of the students, which varies school to school. The senior courses also have both a classroom and physical component, which varies depending on the subject selection. It is not expected the full cohort will elect these subjects.

The school will timetable the curriculum around the needs of the students and use of the future playing field and all school facilities and will ensure all NESA requirements are met.

What happens if the hall, sports courts or playing field are not complete when the school opens?

If the construction of the hall is not complete by the time the school opens, a space will be provided inside the library of the school that will be able to accommodate assemblies until the hall is complete. In the first year of operation, the school is expected to open with only year 7 or year 7 and 8 cohorts, so there will be adequate space to accommodate all students within this space if required.

If necessary alternate arrangements will be made by the school for any PDHPE activities that would otherwise occur in these spaces or cannot be accommodated in the internal landscaped space and games court to ensure all NESA requirements are met. The fitness and movement studio is inside the main buildings and will also be available for use.

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What happens after the modification by Landcom is approved?

Once this is approved, we will submit an appropriate planning application that will allow us to commence construction on the hall and playing courts..

Will the new high school have any temporary buildings?

The completed school will consist of a permanent six storey building with two wings and a hall. There are no plans for any temporary buildings or demountables on site.

What are the plans for school and excursion buses?

The school does not require any permanent bus parking. Students and staff will be able to utilise the public bus routes available in Wentworth Point to travel to and from school. Transport for NSW have confirmed they will add any additional bus routes as required. Arrangements will be made for excursion buses as required to ensure they minimise impact to local traffic.

How will you be managing construction impacts?

As with any significant developments, we acknowledge there could be construction impacts on the Wentworth Point Public School and Wentworth Point community, such as:

- noise from tools and machines
- vibration from digging and drilling
- dust from demolition and digging
- traffic changes on local streets, to help trucks and other vehicles get to site safely.

We aim to reduce the impact of construction by:

- preparing for construction before work starts
- communicating with neighbours or others who may be impacted by works
- managing the way the construction works are completed to reduce impacts, if possible.

Once we have SSD approval we will consult with the community on our mitigation measures for the construction of Wentworth Point new high school. In the meantime you can find out more about how we manage construction impacts on all our projects here: <u>edu.nsw.link/ConstructionImpacts</u>.

When will the school open and how can I enrol?

Once we have approval to start construction, we will be able to provide a timeline for completion and enrolment details. We hope to be able to provide this information later this year.





Wentworth Point Public School upgrade – Stage 2 Project update August 2022

Upgrading Wentworth Point Public School

A project to upgrade Wentworth Point Public School is in planning. The upgrade will include additional modern, fit for purpose permanent teaching spaces to meet growing enrolment demand in the area. It is also anticipated the library will be reconfigured to better suit the needs of the school, with open space also maximised and improved.

Progress update

An extensive investigation of options for the upgrade to Wentworth Point Public School has explored several possible outcomes to achieve the current and expected enrolment numbers. All options have aimed to follow the below principles:

- minimise disruption to the existing school
- retain suitable and functioning assets
- maximise open space
- allow for additional expansion in future if the service need is required
- address any other shortfalls with planning / EFSG / school function where possible
- remove temporary demountable buildings.

These options have been explored with the school leadership and teacher and parent representatives. A preferred masterplan has been selected and is progressing to final business case stage.

What's next?

A business case to seek government approval to proceed with the upgrade will soon be submitted to Treasury.

Ongoing development of the design in consultation with representatives from the Department of Education and Wentworth Point Public School, architects, planners and design professionals.

What is the purpose of the business case?

Funding has been committed to upgrade Wentworth Point Public School, but in order for the funds to be released for ongoing design development and the construction phase, we have to prepare a business case for NSW Treasury approval.

The business case process provides the basis for the continued development of the project options, through refinement, comparison, analysis and evaluation, to ensure that the ultimate project represents the greatest value for money solution.

How will we keep you updated?

We will share more information with the local community as the project progresses. An information session will be held at the school after the business case is approved, for you to find out more about the project and ask any questions. Details will be provided on our website and shared with the school.

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