

Ashtonfield Public School

Community Update | 6 February 2023

Dear school community,

In late 2021, the Department of Education proposed a relocation of an existing staffroom within the Ashtonfield Public School grounds, from the front of the school to the rear of Block C. The relocation of the staffroom provides a designated special program space for staff-use only and additional space for administration, common meeting areas and storage.

Relocation - Completed January 2023

In January 2022, the building was relocated from the front of the school to the rear of the school and set back 5metres from neighbouring properties. Works included installing power and data connections and upgrading the staircase access to the building.

The staffroom building is now ready for use at Ashtonfield Public School.

Project Summary – Council consultation and Review of Environmental Factors

In early August 2022, School Infrastructure NSW engaged an independent consultant, Gainsford Environmental Consulting (GEC), to initiate the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) process and community consultation to determine development approval pathways. Landowners located on Adele Crescent were notified on Monday 8 August 2022. The residents were offered an opportunity to submit any queries or concerns, however, no responses were received in the dedicated timeframe.

In August 2022, School Infrastructure NSW notified Maitland City Council in writing about the proposed relocation of the staffroom. The relocation proposal submitted noted that there was no impact on Maitland City Council's services, and the relocation works were exempt development under the *State Significant Planning Policy Transport and Infrastructure (TISEPP) 2021*

Maitland City Council supported the proposal and agreed that a REF was not necessary, as the works complied with Maitland City Council development requirements.

Careful consideration of the potential impacts of the works on the schools' neighbours were incorporated into the planning of the relocation works.

Thank you for your understanding.

The health, safety, and wellbeing of the school and the local community is our highest priority. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this important work.

