

Darlinghurst Public School

Project update | November 2023

Project overview

We are undertaking work to restore stone and masonry on Darlinghurst Public School's main building. The work on the heritage building includes replacing three sets of original sandstone including entrance piers, iron gates and stairs.

The larger piece of work involves repairs to the western, central and eastern wing facades including a complete roof replacement and associated roof drainage works. The historical building houses eight classrooms, the library, the hall, the canteen and the girls and boys toilets.

Update on progress

The work to restore the building is being done in stages. Stage 1 is complete and included stonework restoration to the western wing. Stage 2 is underway. Scaffolding has been installed on the central and eastern wings. Seismic works, which are required to reinforce the roof, have also started on both the eastern and central wings.

The start of work on the central and eastern wings was delayed due to unforeseen additional work identified during Stage 1. Heritage consultants are now finalising plans for the additional work. Roof replacement work will begin in the December holidays for the central wing. Work on the eastern wing roof is scheduled to begin in the April 2024 holidays.

Stonemasons, painters, and other skilled tradespeople will continue to work on the external façade during school hours in Term 4, 2023 and Terms 1 & 2, 2024 until the work is completed. The team will take advantage of the holiday periods in December and April to do work that can't be done during school hours.

The work to restore historical buildings is done by skilled stonemasons, who are specially trained to preserve and maintain the significance of heritage buildings. Because much of the work is done by hand, it takes time and care to masterfully handcraft the sandstone. A lot of the work is also done outside of school hours to minimise any disturbance to students' learning.

We still anticipate all work to be completed by the start of Term 3 in 2024.

Thank you

Thank you for your patience in the process of restoring this important heritage building. Your continued support and cooperation is appreciated and we look forward to unveiling the restored façade of the building in 2024. For questions or feedback, please contact us on the details below.

