



# Empire Vale Public School

Project update | March 2024

## Project overview

The NSW Government is committed to rebuilding flood impacted schools in the Northern Rivers region, ensuring we build back better with more flood resilient schools for local students and local communities.

As part of this commitment, a project is underway to rebuild Empire Vale Public School, which was extensively damaged during floods in early 2022.

The project will deliver new modern flood resilient classrooms and school facilities, including a library, canteen, administration area, undercover learning area, yarning circle and landscaping to complement the school's surroundings.

## Progress summary

- Demolition of the old school was completed during the summer school holidays. The heritage building still remains.
- The screw piles are almost complete. These are long steel columns that will form the base of foundations for the new building.
- Footings have begun in preparation for the pouring of the concrete slab.
- The storm water and septic services have been installed.
- A sod turning and Welcome to Country was held with school leaders on 31 January 2024 to mark the start of construction.
- Detailed design of the school space and landscaping have been finalised in consultation with the Project Reference Group (PRG).
- Feedback from our Connecting with Country consultation in late 2023 is also being incorporated into the rebuilt school.
- Offsite construction of the new school buildings is about 70% complete (see attached photos).

## Next steps

- The off-site construction will continue. Once the buildings are complete, they will be dismantled and transported to Empire Vale for installation. This may impact local roads, including River Drive. We will advise the community ahead of time.

- We anticipate the school be ready for Empire Vale Public School students and staff to move into mid-2024. We will work with the school to provide more information about the transition back to the newly rebuilt school as the date approaches.

## Working hours

Standard working hours are **7am to 5pm Monday Friday and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays**. We will work to ensure that all works are carried out safely and efficiently and will minimise impacts to the community at every opportunity.

If you have any queries or concerns about this project, you can contact School Infrastructure NSW during business hours on 1300 482 651 or 1399 482 651.



Caption: Empire Vale PS under construction. The internal services have been installed and the partition walls have been closed. Painting and final fixtures will commence shortly.

