

Schofields Public School

Response to the P&C President's questions via email (dated 14/4/2020)

<p>1. Are the new classrooms individual rooms or just a space for a classroom in a big hall?</p>	<p>While open learning spaces encourage collaboration between students and teachers and are appropriate for some classes, all open learning spaces will have the ability to be partitioned off for quiet or specialised learning.</p> <p>The Department of Education recognises these types of spaces are not a 'one size fits all' approach with some subjects, including music, requiring specialist facilities that can be closed-off for sound management.</p>
<p>2. I have no idea where the school car park is coming. If the school car park comes inside the school, open spaces for the students will get squeezed further?</p>	<p>Staff car parking will remain near the corner of Lambeth and St Albans Roads following completion of the project. There is no parking onsite other than for staff and special education students as required</p>
<p>3. What is happening to the main hall? Is it getting extended to cater to growing number of students?</p>	<p>The existing hall will remain. There is no intention to undertake any works for this building</p>
<p>4. I am so concerned about the school losing the big trees it had. Is there any plan for having new trees and green spaces?</p>	<p>Yes. The school upgrade will be built in accordance with current sustainability principles. School Infrastructure NSW is committed to environmentally conscious construction and maintenance practices.</p> <p>Following completion of construction, two new trees will be planted for every one removed.</p>
<p>5. Are we allowed to go ahead with fundraising via selling individualised pavers? What is the supplier costing?</p>	<p>The Principal will communicate the process for purchasing individual pavers directly with the school community.</p>

<p>6. Will the community will be allowed to tour the new build before it becomes operational?</p>	<p>For safety reasons, the Department of Education does not run community tours of an active construction site. Upon completion of the works, the project team will work with the principal to facilitate a community tour of the new facilities.</p>
<p>7. Is the build on track and when do they think it will be finished?</p>	<p>Despite COVID-19 and the social distancing measures in place, the build remains on track to be completed during Term 3, 2020.</p>
<p>8. Will the landscaping be finished before the students move into the new school?</p>	<p>Landscaping is expected to be completed by the time students move into the new school.</p>
<p>9. Can parents see a plan of the landscaping for the new school?</p>	<p>Landscaping plans can be found in the approved plans on the Department of Education's Schofields Public School project website: https://www.schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/projects/s/schofields-public-school.html</p>
<p>10. Will there be another gate opening onto the Soccer Park behind the new classrooms and will it be larger than the one already there which is behind the pop-up school?</p>	<p>No. An additional gate is not part of the project scope. The principal should be consulted for any further details</p>
<p>11. How many of the temporary buildings in the pop-up school will be remaining after the new build is complete? Education Minister says some will have to stay as the new school is not big enough. Some parents are under the impression that they will all be going?</p>	<p>Since approval was granted to build the new Schofields Public School, enrolments have exceeded current and future predicted capacity.</p> <p>The demountable classrooms currently onsite will remain to cater for the growth in student numbers. This may be revised at the completion of the project.</p> <p>As part of a broader strategy to manage enrolment growth in the area, an additional primary school for the Schofields area is being</p>

	built (Alex Avenue Public School – provisional name). The non-teaching demountable buildings including library and canteen may be removed in late 2020.
12. Can we please be given a virtual tour of the inside setup of classrooms?	Once the project is complete, the project team will work with the Principal to showcase the new build. While social distancing measures are still in place, we are considering different ways to showcase the new facilities.
13. Can rooms be sectioned off from one another with folding internal doors or will there just be a few giant class rooms? There is a fear that this open style learning (where a large number of children are in the same learning space) will enable illnesses to spread more easily through the school rather than when students are sectioned off into individual smaller classrooms.	<p>While open learning spaces encourage collaboration between students and teachers and are appropriate for some classes, all open learning spaces will have the ability to be partitioned off for quiet or specialised learning.</p> <p>The Department of Education recognises these types of spaces are not a 'one size fits all' approach with some subjects, including music, requiring specialist facilities that can be closed-off for sound management.</p>
14. Can the project team provide community members with a virtual tour of finished product so we know what to expect? So far we have just seen a few 2D building plans showing layout of buildings on the site.	The project is on track for completion during Term 3 2020. At this point of the project we will not be sourcing any additional renders/artists impressions. Once the project is complete, we will work with the school principal to showcase the new build. While social distancing measures are still in place, we are considering different ways to showcase the new facilities.
15. If there will not be any information booths for a while (last one Dec 2019), how do you plan to reach out to the community now? Some community members have had a very slow response or nil response to emails sent to the generic School Infrastructure email address.	<p>The health and safety of our students, staff and community is our priority.</p> <p>We are temporarily changing some of the ways we keep you informed about our project in your community to account for social distancing measures.</p>

	<p>Until further notice we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to deliver project updates and works notifications to your letterbox or via email. • Share information with our communities online instead of in person. • Encourage you to contact us via the schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au email or phone 1300 482 651. • Discuss any questions or concerns directly with the Schofields Public School Principal, Mr Ross. <p>When social distancing measures ease, we will reassess the possibility of hosting community information booths.</p>
16. Will the new building have solar panels?	Yes, the new building will have solar panels.
17. Will the new school have rainwater tanks?	Yes, there will be two separate rain water tanks.
18. Will the new classrooms have carpet or lino?	The new classrooms will be carpeted.
19. Will there be a dedicated visitor toilet?	No, instead a unisex accessible toilet near the central courtyard will be available for visitor use.
20. Will there be a sensory garden in the new school?	No, there will not be a sensory garden in the new school. Significant landscape works are included as part of the project to ensure play space requirements are met in accordance with the Department of Education's design standards.
21. Will the new build feature a basketball court and area to play handball?	Yes. There is a large central covered outdoor learning area (COLA) for outdoor activities.

<p>22. How many toilets will the new building have? Will they have automatic soap dispensers? Is there hand dryers? Will there be also be a dedicated outside hand washing area? Given the current pandemic people are reassessing the way things are done. It does seem a good idea to also have an area outside the toilets to wash your hands. Are there hand washing facilities within the learning spaces in the new buildings?</p>	<p>The amenities provided in the new building are in accordance with the Department of Education’s design standards applied to all NSW schools.</p> <p>The new building will have 7 staff and 46 student toilets with handwashing facilities located outside the main toilet areas. Each handwashing station will have surface mounted soap dispensers and hand dryers. Every learning hub also has a wet area for handwashing.</p>
<p>23. Are there any bubblers located close by to the Council oval boundary? Students are seeking water after/during play and sports activities on the Council oval and school oval, but bubblers seem not to be located close by for students to access.</p>	<p>As per the Department of Education’s design standards, bubblers are will be located throughout the school.</p>
<p>24. How many bikes will be able to be accommodated in the plans for the new school site? Are the bike storage racks able to be placed undercover/shelter to allow bikes and helmets to be stored out of direct sun and rain?</p>	<p>A total of 29 bike racks, accommodating 58 bikes, will be dispersed around the playground.</p>
<p>25. What technology is supplied to the teaching areas in the new school? Will we have to fundraise for more interactive mobile smart boards/screens like the teachers are currently using in the demountables?</p>	<p>Mobile SMART screens will be provided to each learning area.</p> <p>Fundraising needs are at the discretion of the Principal.</p>
<p>26. Are there plans to build a second stage to Schofields Public School to cater for the continual growth in our suburb and cater equally for all students, not just 600?</p>	<p>The project team is not aware of plans for a second stage to the build.</p> <p>As part of a broader strategy to manage enrolment growth in the area, an additional primary school for the Schofields area is being built (Alex Avenue Public School – provisional name).</p>

27. What outdoor shading is included in the new school for all students to access during recess and lunch breaks?

The project includes outdoor spaces which meets the Department of Education's guidelines. The outside play space will include a combination of shaded and open areas, satisfying the need to provide shade in summer and warmth in winter. Adequate outdoor seating will be provided.