



An example of a flexible learning space

Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrade

Project update | February 2023

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.

Project overview

A project is underway to upgrade Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High Schools. The project will deliver upgraded facilities, subject to development approvals, to support the learning needs of the local community.

The upgrade to Birrong Boys High School will deliver an upgraded multipurpose hall and covered outdoor learning area, additional learning spaces, new specialised learning spaces for science, food technology and materials learning, new administration and staff areas, refurbishment of the student support unit and improvements to landscaped outdoor areas.

The upgrade to Birrong Girls High School will deliver a new multipurpose hall and covered outdoor learning area, additional learning spaces, new visual arts learning unit, refurbished materials learning unit, new administration and staff areas, and improvements to landscaped outdoor areas.

Progress update and next steps

We have continued the planning required to deliver the upgrades to both schools and are progressing with the development of the design in consultation with a Project Reference Group (PRG). The PRG includes representatives from the Department of Education, Birrong Boys and Girls High Schools, parent and citizen (P&C) representatives and project team members. Once the design is finalised and the planning documentation required to deliver the upgrades are finished and approved, we will begin the process to procure the building contractor for the works.

The statutory planning pathway process: Review of Environmental Factors

As communicated in the [December project update](#), multiple planning pathways will be used to deliver the Birrong Boys High School and Birrong Girls High School upgrades. This approach is often used to make the planning process faster and more efficient.

In 2021, the NSW Government combined policies relating to infrastructure to create a new consolidated transport and infrastructure-based State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP). The SEPP aims to make it easier to provide new and upgraded infrastructure across a range of sectors including education facilities as well as utilities and transport networks that support them. Under the SEPP some development works can be carried out without development consent from council.

For the project to deliver the Birrong Boys and Girls High Schools upgrades, these works include the following:

- adjusting and expanding the services such as water, sewer, electrical, telecommunications and storm water management.
- demolition of some of the existing structures at the schools.
- repair any adverse site conditions, additional works to support the development and the removal of some trees.

Before starting the works, we need to undertake a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) to determine whether there will be any potential impacts on the environment. As part of the REF process, a letter will be issued to some stakeholders, providing them with details of the proposed work and contact details for feedback or further information.

The statutory planning process: Complying Development

Complying development is a planning pathway that combines planning and construction approval for a straightforward development that can be determined through a fast-track assessment by a council or an accredited certifier. The works that will be delivered for this project which will follow a complying development planning pathway include:

- the construction of the new learning spaces,
- new and refurbished hall
- covered outdoor learning spaces and improvement of landscape areas.

For more information about the different planning pathways used in NSW visit the NSW Department of Planning and Environment on their webpage via the department of planning webpage at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Assess-and-Regulate/Development-Assessment/Planning-Approval-Pathways

You are invited: Community information session Tuesday 28 February 2023

Join us at the upcoming information session to find out more about the design, projected planning timelines and how we will ensure student and staff safety during construction. At the drop-in style session, you can ask questions about the project.

- Date: Tuesday 28 February 2023
- Time: 3 pm to 6:30 pm
- Venue: Birrong Girls High School Hall, 14 Cooper Rd, Birrong NSW 2143



To ensure that we can speak with all attendees, book interpreters if needed and answer your questions, please book your preferred 30-minute attendance time via edu.nsw.link/BGHSinfo or by scanning the QR code above.



For a Translation and Interpreting Service call 131 450 and ask them to call the Department of Education - School Infrastructure NSW on 1300 482 651.

للحصول على خدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفوية، يمكن الاتصال على الرقم 131 450 ثم طلب الاتصال بدائرة التربية والتعليم - هيئة البنى التحتية للمدارس في نيو ساوث ويلز على الرقم 1300 482 651.

