



Your questions

How did you arrive at the design for the school expansion.

The design for the school expansion was developed using the Education Directorate's design documentation and output specifications for school facilities. The design aligns with the design elements of the existing school.

The school expansion was developed to best utilise the current site, ensuring adequate external learning environments are maintained, to avoid overshadowing of existing school buildings and to minimise disruption to the school and community through the construction period.

Why is the current design different to the masterplan concept?

This design was developed after discussions with school principal and the Directorate. It draws on the masterplan concept developed in 2019, and also takes into consideration feedback received from the school community.

Why is a two-storey building being built?

A two-storey building has been included as part of the expansion to provide further development space if additional learning spaces are required in the future. Having a two-storey building also delivers a smaller building footprint, allowing for more external learning environments for students and staff.

What learning and community spaces are we getting in the school expansion?

- 450 additional student places supported by approximately 15 additional educational staff will be added to the existing school and distributed in three learning communities of 150 students each.
- A dedicated Small Group Programme (SGP) area will be part of one of the learning communities with another SGP to be developed, if required, to meet student needs. This will be achieved by adapting existing space within another learning community.
- A new general-purpose hall/gymnasium which will be available for community use during out of school hours.
- A staff lounge and work/conference area, additional carpark and grass play area will also be developed.
- The existing administration area, library and junior hall areas will be refitted to provide an expanded administration space, new community use room and library resources accommodation for the expanded school.
- A learning space dedicated to science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEAM) will also be created.

When will the building start?

The Education Directorate is aiming to commence construction works in Term 2.

Where will you start?

A detailed construction plan is being finalised now. The construction timetable will require a phased approach to ensure one learning community is ready for our Year 5's at the start of 2021. It is anticipated that the remaining learning communities are available for use by the school in mid-2021, and the community facilities later in Term 4, 2021. Note, these dates may change, and we will keep you updated.

We will continue to work with the school community and staff to ensure the staged expansion allows the school to maintain the strong values and characteristics that have developed across the years. The size of our school expansion program is significant, and we know it is important to you. The nature of this type of building program means this will take time. We believe it is important that we take the time to ensure we get it right.

What will happen to the transportable classrooms?

The transportable classrooms currently used by our year 1, 3 and 4 students will be removed, and the area returned to a carpark.

What about our play areas?

During construction the contractor will look to provide maximum safe access to play spaces for students and staff.

How will you ensure my child's safety during the construction?

The construction area(s) will be separated from the school by construction fencing and shade cloth, with separate entry and parking for construction vehicles. A detailed traffic and safety plan will be developed by the contractor, Education Directorate and the school to ensure the safety of our students, staff and community.

What about parking during the construction phase?

The Education Directorate is investigating a temporary parking area for workers to the south of the school during the construction period. This dedicated area will ensure existing carparking areas are maintained for parents, staff and visitors to the school.

Our school will be much larger by the end of the expansion process. Will there be more car parking available to reflect the increase in student numbers?

Yes. Additional car parks will be provided for parents, staff and community to reflect the increase in student and staff numbers at the school.

What school facilities/buildings will be available to the community?

Once the expansion of our school has been completed, the local community will be able to access the playing field, outdoor hardcourts and existing bike track. Community groups will also be able to hire the multipurpose hall/gymnasium and the multipurpose community room.

What is happening to the child-care service at Franklin?

The childcare service at Franklin will remain unchanged and continues to provide the same level of service.

How will you keep us in the loop about what is happening?

Project updates will be included in our school newsletter and posts to the school website.

How will the students be involved?

The student voice is highly valued at our school and has already been captured in the short video 'Our Student Voice' where students shared what they love about their school and what makes them happy about Franklin. The school will continue to work with the Directorate and building contractor to identify additional opportunities for our students, staff and parents to be involved.