

**St Francis Catholic College  
Edmondson Park  
SSD 10365**

**DESIGN QUALITY PRINCIPLES STATEMENT**

PREPARED BY  
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Revision	Date	Approved by
01	07.02.2020	JT
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## Project Overview

Project Name: St Francis Landscape SSD, Edmondson Park  
Project Address: 130-150 Jardine Drive, Edmondson Park NSW, 2171  
Architect: JDH Architects

## Description of the Project

JDH Architects have been engaged by the Catholic Education Diocese of Wollongong (CEDoW) in the Stage 1 design for landscaping works at St Francis Catholic College, Edmondson Park. The project works include soft soil planting and new fence line along the site boundaries of Vinny Rd, Guillemont Rd and Poziers Rd and new inground stormwater detention tank and bio retention tank for future stormwater collection of buildings and hard surfaces within the catchment.

The current SSD 8832 concept design approval includes a maximum student population of 1,900 students, 80 childcare places and 140 full-time equivalent staff and 226 onsite carparking spaces. St Francis Catholic College is a K – 12 college with years K – 6 as 3 stream and 7 – 12 as 6 stream. In addition there has been an approved modification to the consent to differentiate between the built form and landscape works SSD 8832 MOD 1.

## Design Approach

St Francis Catholic College, Edmondson Park is in the heart of Western and South Western Sydney Priority Growth Areas. Part of the Liverpool City Council, Edmondson Park Precinct will be accommodating 6000 households, as well as a new civic precinct comprising a new town centre, council community facilities and train services.

The landscape design and approach is in line with the approved Masterplan, to provide green, healthy and well connected spaces for staff and students. The landscape design draws on locally significant species, which are integrated into the design to better connect the precinct into the wider environment. WSUD principles have been incorporated to catch runoff and direct this through planted areas as an informal irrigation method which provides a sustainable approach to water capturing and use.

## Key Considerations

The proposed site landscape works at St Francis Catholic College, Edmondson Park is part of an overall master plan which has undergone rigorous design interrogations to ensure that the proposal facilitates school values, community needs, and site constrains through the following considerations:

- Siting: Understanding the existing site topography and surrounding biodiversity corridors to ensure the design connects and responds well to the wider ecosystem.
- Streetscape: Providing an appropriate street front for St Francis Catholic College along Guillemont Rd, Bezentine Ridge Rd and Vinny Rd that would be respective to the neighbouring community

## Response to the Education SEPP Design Quality Principles

The table below summarises JDH Architects response to the SEPP (Education Establishments and Child Care Facilities) 2017 – Schedule 4 Schools – Design Quality Principles, with the outcomes set out by the Design Guide for Schools by the Government Architect NSW.

<p><b>Principle 1 –</b>  <i>Context, built form and landscape</i></p>	<p>The site landscape works subject to the submission will provide a landscape buffer to the surrounding context. The levels of the site perimeter have been investigated to create a fully landscaped gentle undulation between the existing footpath and road and the school along with the incorporation of a planted swale to redirect water.</p> <p>The works propose to retain the one significant tree remaining on the property. The intention is to reinstate significant native planting to the embankment thereby significantly improving the neighbourhood character and streetscape quality.</p> <p>The required future carparking works have been positioned beyond the landscape buffer and largely below the existing street level in order to minimise their visual impact. Equally the site perimeter fencing has also been set back within the landscape zone such that the streetscape appearance will focus on the Native planting in preference to the school’s pragmatic requirements.</p>
<p><b>Principle 2 –</b>  <i>Sustainable, efficient and durable</i></p>	<p>The reintroduction of significant native planting in combination with the planted swale to capture water runoff will significantly reduce or eliminate the need for additional irrigation. The proposed OSD and bio-retention basin will additionally harness the on-site water.</p> <p>As the native planting matures it will provide sun-shading to both the perimeter of the school as well as the adjoining footpaths. This will reduce the heat load of the site and the resultant requirement for mechanical cooling.</p>
<p><b>Principle 3 –</b>  <i>Accessible &amp; inclusive</i></p>	<p>The project considers that a welcoming environment for students, parents, teachers and community of all different backgrounds is essential to promote a happy and safe school.</p> <p>Designated apertures have been created in the landscape buffer for controlled vehicular and pedestrian access and egress to the school. By limiting the number of campus access points this will enhance safety and security by providing a clear school entry and visibility through the site.</p>
<p><b>Principle 4 –</b>  <i>Health and safety</i></p>	<p>The project considers the health and safety of all potential users to ensure that everyone can enjoy the campus safely. Safety in design has been considered at all stages of the project and any identified safety concerns have been designed out early in the design process.</p>

	<p>The one directional parking methodology employed prioritises pedestrians and avoid conflicts between vehicles and people.</p> <p>Site perimeter security fence has been incorporated into the landscape buffer zone. This provides safety for the users of the campus by restricting access to the nominated entry points and improving security through greater passive surveillance. The incorporation of the fence within the landscape zone ensures that the campus balances this whilst remaining welcoming and considerate of its neighbours.</p>
<p><b>Principle 5 –</b> <i>Amenity</i></p>	<p>The significant native landscape buffer areas provided around the perimeter will enhance the amenity of the site and soften the transition between the streetscape, future carparking works and main campus beyond. The project has taken great care to retain the existing significant tree and incorporate planting of additional native trees and plants to improve the appearance of the site.</p>
<p><b>Principle 6 –</b> Whole of life, flexible and adaptive</p>	<p>The approved Master plan has been based on the staged growth of the college to a maximum size of approximately 1,900 students. The college is undergoing expansion through various stages in such a way to minimise potential interruption of any future development proposed.</p> <p>The proposed landscape works are designed for both immediate use and future adaptation as the campus expands to full capacity.</p> <p>Long lasting, low maintenance native planting and materials are proposed to ensure longevity of the landscape buffer.</p>
<p><b>Principle 7 –</b> Aesthetics</p>	<p>The project aims to engage with the site context through the creation of a native landscape buffer between at the site perimeter and by enhancing the street presence of the school with respect to the residential neighbouring blocks.</p> <p>The gradual undulation of the landscape zone creates the opportunity for a variety of planting zones whilst reducing the visual impact of the future carparking works from the street. This will enhance not only the public street presence but also create an engaging and attractive environment.</p>