

NSW Department of Education
Smalls Road Public School, Ryde
Consultation Outcomes Report
26 September 2017



Education



When you
think with a
global mind
problems
get smaller

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New School at Smalls Road, Ryde

Prepared for
NSW Department of Education

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Quality information

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1. Introduction

Coffey on behalf of Department of Education (DoE) are managing the proposed development of the new school at Smalls Road, Ryde NSW. Community and stakeholder consultation is crucial in ensuring the success of the project and a variety of different methods have been employed to provide information and obtain feedback from the local community.

The development will provide a new public school to accommodate 1000 students and offer a flexible, dynamic and future focused learning facility that will support high quality educational outcomes and collaborative learning.

Throughout the planning process the project has undertaken many consultation activities on a local level to both inform the community and obtain their input on the design. These activities include letter box drops and regular community engagement sessions. The feedback received through these sessions has been considered and incorporated into the design where possible.

1.1. About this report

This Consultation Outcomes Summary Report has been prepared to document engagement activities and feedback from agencies and the community throughout the design development process. The project will continue to undertake community engagement for the remainder of the design process and into the construction period to ensure the the local community is informed of the project's progress. Project groups also continue to meet regularly as the design develops.

1.2. Consultation and engagement activities

During the development of the design of the new school the project undertook numerous engagement activities as detailed below.

Project Reference Group (PRG)

Regular meetings with the PRG have been held throughout the master planning and design development process. The PRG is a working group consisting of the Director of Public Schools (PS) for the North Sydney Network, the Principal of Kent Road Public School and representatives from the Department of Education's Asset Management Unit. The group meet on a regular basis to discuss the design of the project and key issues to be considered in the design of the school. As the development is a new school there was no opportunity to consult with the school community and hence the project has relied on input from the nearby Kent Road Public School to obtain this input.

Community Consultation

As part of the communications strategy for the project DoE engages with the local community throughout the planning, design and construction phases to obtain their feedback. This consultation includes letter box drops, newspaper advertisements and community engagement sessions at both the site of the future school and the local Top Ryde Shopping Centre.

Project Website

DoE have developed a project website that is accessible to the public and provides up to date information on the project status. The website also advertises upcoming information sessions and provides a link to an online survey.

Letter Box Drop

Letterbox drops were conducted in March and April advertising upcoming engagement sessions. These letters were distributed to the approximately 300 residential properties in the vicinity of the new school providing a brief overview of the project and advising of the upcoming community information sessions where local residents could obtain additional information. A copy of the flyer is included in **Appendix A**, and a distribution map is included in **Appendix B**

Newspaper advertisements

Newspaper advertisements have been placed in The Northern District Times and Daily Telegraph to notify the community of the proposed development and upcoming information sessions. A total of six advertisements have been published to invite the public to attend the community information sessions. A recently published newspaper advertisement is included in **Appendix C**.

Information Sessions

A total of six (6) community information sessions have been held at the existing facility on site throughout the planning phase of the project. These sessions provided the community with an opportunity to obtain up to date information and provide their feedback on the proposed development. Monthly sessions are planned to take place on site and at Top Ryde Shopping center as the project progresses. Further details regarding the community information sessions and the feedback received is provided in Section 2 of this report.

Broadcast Emails

Email addresses have been collected at each information booth to allow the DoE to provide project updates and notify previous attendees of upcoming information sessions.

City of Ryde Council

The project met with representatives from City of Ryde Council (Council) on 3 April 2017 to provide an overview of the project and provide Council the opportunity to raise any issues that the project would be required to address. The meeting was attended by members of the project team and the following Council representatives:

- Team Leader Building & Development (Vince Galletto)
- Senior Coordinator – Parks and Recreation (Simon James)
- Senior Coordinator, Community Engagement (Claudia Micallef)
- Community Engagement Coordinator (Elise Clark)
- Acting Manager, Communications (Liz Berger)
- Senior Coordinator Open Space Planning and Development (Ian Andrews)
- Senior Strategic Planner (Lara Dominish)
- Senior Traffic Engineer (Harry Muker)
- Development Engineer (Daniel Pearse)
- Senior Coordinator Major Development (Sandra Bailley)

- Senior Coordinator Environmental Health (Craig Redfern)

The main area of feedback provided by Council were concerns around the traffic impact of the new school and in particular queue lengths resulting in the peak student drop up and pick up activities. A lack of on site parking was also discussed. These items have been addressed through an extended kiss and drop and the provision of on site parking which exceeds the requirements of Council Development Control Plan. This design was presented to Council's Senior Traffic Engineer at a meeting on 29 August 2017.

DoE and City of Ryde Council have been in ongoing discussions over the future shared use of facilities on the site. The existing sports fields are owned by DoE and will form part of the school grounds and hence they will not be accessible to the community during school hours. Currently the sports fields are used by Council under licence. On 22 September 2017 DoE and Council representatives met to discuss the future use of the sports fields. These discussions are ongoing.

The project has located key school facilities such as the library and the hall in areas where they could be accessible to the community outside of school hours. This use would be managed by the school and these facilities could be leased out to third parties when not required by the school.

Transport for NSW

Consultation has been undertaken with Transport for NSW (TfNSW). This is discussed in further detail in the traffic reports prepared by TTW which have been developed to support the EIS.

Roads and Maritime Services

Consultation has taken place with the RMS. In particular discussions around the extent of traffic modelling was discussed with RMS representatives. These discussions are outlined in the traffic reports prepared by TTW which have been developed to support the EIS.

2. Overview of Community Information Sessions

The following information sessions were held during design development. At each stage of the design, several sessions were conducted to provide an update to the community and provide an opportunity for feedback from stakeholders for consideration in the development of the project. Attendance was recorded at each session, with contact details (email) collected to allow the DoE to provide ongoing project updates.

Each information session is advertised in the local newspaper (The Northern District Times), the DoE project website, and a broadcast email is sent to previous attendees.

The sessions are held at the existing on site facility in a meeting room with an approximate 60 person capacity. Drawings of the proposed new school are displayed and attendees are invited to ask questions and discuss the project with project representatives.

1. Preliminary Concept Design

This initial information session was held to inform and raise awareness around the proposed development. As the concept designs were at a very early stage, the main objective of these sessions was to gain feedback that could be used to help guide the design.

- Thursday 23 March, 2017 (5 attendees).
- Thursday 30 March, 2017 (25 attendees).

2. Concept Design

The information session held on the following dates were to enable feedback on the concept design that had been developed to date.

- Thursday 4 May, 2017 (approximately 40 attendees).
- Thursday 11 May, 2017 (approximately 30 attendees).

3. Schematic Design

The concept designs were progressed to schematic design and displayed at the following information sessions for comment from the community.

- Thursday 6 July, 2017 (12 attendees).
- Thursday 10 August, 2017 (5 attendees).
- Thursday 24 August, 2017 (6 attendees).
- Thursday 7 September 2017 (4 attendees).

Monthly information sessions will continue throughout the design phase and into construction at which time the information booth may be held at an alternative location in the local area (e.g. City of Ryde Library meeting rooms).

Less formal 'drop in' information booths will also be held at Top Ryde Shopping Centre throughout the duration of the project. These booths provide the wider community a chance to obtain a project update who might not necessarily be able to attend the onsite information sessions.

2.1. Feedback responses

2.1.1. General queries about development and overall design

Attendees were aware of the proposed development and generally supported the project with the majority of feedback overwhelmingly positive. The feedback received included items related to school operations as well as the design of the facility. The following is a summary of the queries raised during the sessions and responses provided.

| Issue/Question Raised | Responses |
|---|---|
| Parking is important for parents and the new school should provide adequate space for student pick up/drop off. | Parking will be available on the surrounding road network. Kiss and drop facilities will be provided close to the school entry points. |
| How much on site parking will be provided? | Some on site parking will be provided. The number of spots being provided (47) will exceed the requirements under City of Ryde Council's DCP. |
| What is the Department doing about the likely increase in traffic congestion and burden on local parking? | The project is undertaking numerous studies including parking utilisation surveys and traffic modelling to determine a suitable traffic solution. This will be outlined in the EIS. |
| Will the community have access to the school outside of school hours? | The school will have an Out of School Hours facility. In addition it is expected that the hall and library will be a shared facility that can be used by the wider community. |
| Will the existing sports field remain open? | Access to the sports fields adjacent to the site are expected to remain accessible to the community outside of school hours. These fields are owned by DoE and are currently used by Council under licence. |
| Will the new school provide facilities for disabled students? | The new school will include 3 Special Education classrooms. |
| What is the catchment boundary for the new school? | The catchment boundaries are preliminary and still being developed by DoE. This process is independent of the school construction. |
| When can teachers apply for a position at the new school? | This process is independent of the school construction project. DoE will manage this process closer to the school opening date. |
| How will waste management and deliveries be managed? | Existing on site car park adjacent Smalls Road will be refurbished and made accessible to waste trucks and deliveries. |

| Issue/Question Raised | Responses |
|---|--|
| When do student enrolments open? | This process is independent of the school construction project. DoE will manage this process closer to the school opening date. |
| When will the new school be open? | The new school is expected to be open for Term 1, 2020. |
| Will the new school initially be open for K-6 or will enrolment be staggered? | This process is independent of the school construction project and will be dependent on enrolment numbers. DoE will manage this process and make this determination closer to the school opening date. |

2.1.2. Construction Management

Apart from general enquiries into the timeframe for construction, there were no questions or concerns raised in relation to construction management. The location of the school is in a growth area with increasing development around the site. The project will continue to undertake information sessions during the construction phase to provide the opportunity for new residents to the area to be kept informed on project progress.

2.1.3. State Significant Development

Information session attendees were made aware of the approval pathway during all information sessions. Attendees were informed of the exhibition process undertaken by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and that there will be an opportunity to provide formal submissions in response to the development during this process.

3. Next Steps

The next steps in the planning process will be the lodgement of the application for the proposed development with the Department of Planning and Environment for their consideration and placement on public exhibition for comment and formal submission by agencies and the community.

Pending development approval, the Department of Education is committed to working closely with its neighbours and local community throughout the construction process.

Appendix A - Flyer

New School at Smalls Road, Ryde

Denistone East Public School Upgrade

The Department of Education is planning a new School at Smalls Road, Ryde and an upgrade of Denistone East Public School.

Coffey as Project Managers on behalf of the Department of Education are engaging in ongoing consultation to provide information about the project and gain valuable feedback from the community.

If you have any questions, concerns or would simply like some more information, please don't hesitate to send us an email, or visit our information booths and offer your feedback.

Denistone East Public School Upgrade Information Session

WHEN: Thursday 4th May 3pm to 4pm
Thursday 11th May 3pm to 4pm

WHERE: Denistone East Public School

New School at Smalls Road, Ryde Information Session

WHEN: Thursday 4th May 7pm to 8pm
Thursday 11th May 7pm to 8pm

WHERE: 3b Smalls Road, Ryde.

All enquiries to: Adam Gonlag
Project Manager
Coffey Projects
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Appendix B – Flyer Distribution Map

Appendix C – Newspaper Advertisement



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New School at Smalls Road, Ryde & Denistone East Public School Upgrade Community Consultation

The Department of Education is planning a new School at Smalls Road, Ryde and an upgrade of Denistone East Public School.

Coffey as Project Managers on behalf of the Department of Education are engaging in ongoing consultation with the public to keep the local community updated and gain your feedback on the development.

WHERE: Denistone East Public School

WHEN: 4th May and 11th May,
3:00pm - 4:00pm

WHERE: 3B Smalls Road, Ryde

WHEN: 4th May and 11th May,
7:00pm - 8:00pm

All enquiries to: Adam Gonlag
Project Manager
Coffey Projects

Adam.gonlag@coffey.com

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