

07/10/2021

[REDACTED]
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Bungendore,
New South Wales 2621

Re; Bungendore High School Proposal

SSDA 14394209

I object to this proposal, in its currently proposed location.

I fully support the building of a new high school for Bungendore. The town is growing rapidly, and this proposed high school would be a worthy and valuable addition for our community.

However, the proposal to locate the school in the middle of the original heritage heart of town is wrong, on many levels.

This proposed area is already fully occupied, with our historic Primary school, Post office, School of Arts building, Police Station and Courthouse, the Convent, the heritage listed Railway Station (in use) and other heritage buildings surrounding our wonderful Bungendore Park. This heritage park was originally established nearly 140 years ago. It has been valued and used by generations of Bungendore and district residents, ever since. My wife and I have raised our own family here, and now my grandchildren love to use the park and its facilities, regularly. If this proposal goes ahead, part of this park would be taken over to build the school; a multistorey modern development, the construction of which would in **no way** harmonise with its surroundings.

Another important issue is that there is not any space available for future expansion, for a town and community that will double in size in the next ten years. Even now, the available area of the site is far too small. Right from the start, it is proposed that the popular and constantly used current Oval, in the middle of the Park, would be closed to the public and used for a sports field for the school, during the day. There is no other green space proposed. This Oval is already very busy, used daily by the primary school children AND the general public.

Another thing of concern is accessibility. Already, particularly at the beginning and end of each school day, traffic and parking is a major issue. This proposal includes the closing of, and construction on, what is now a vitally important public road, constantly in use by parents and pupils coming and going from the north half of town, as well as general traffic. Adding to this equation all the traffic and parking associated with another whole school, including teaching and admin staff, parental pick-up and drop-off of students, buses coming and going, not to mention student's own vehicles, is hard to imagine.

The primary school children who currently walk and ride bikes to and from the north would have to travel through the high school, or take a lengthy detour around it, on busy roads.

I encourage you to find a viable alternative site, away from the heart of our beautiful town. It is my understanding that an alternative site on the Tarago road to the north is perfectly viable. This is a much needed development for the long term. Our town is growing, and we must do this right, for the good of us all, into the future.

Respectfully

[REDACTED]