



GROUP GSA

Architecture
Interior Design
Landscape Architecture
Urban Design
Graphic Design

ALEX AVENUE PUBLIC SCHOOL

SSD RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

Department of Education. — 8th August 2019

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This response to submissions report has been prepared by GroupGSA to support the Richard Crookes Construction response to the SSDA submissions received for Alex Avenue Public School.

Issue	Title	Date	Prepared	Checked
1	Issued for submission	08.08.19	JS	MB
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1.1 ITEM 1 - HALL & FARMLAND DRIVE RELATIONSHIP

SUBMISSION QUERY:

The relationship between the hall and Farmland Drive is a large blank façade with only a couple of small door openings. This façade should be further articulated to create an engaging, welcoming interface with the street.

SUBMISSION RESPONSE:

The following is a series of artists impressions taken along Farmland Drive to aid in the understanding of the scale and materiality of the site and surroundings.

The scale and massing of the hall and school entry are developed with a conscious awareness of the scale of the surrounding double storey dwellings, as well as a consideration for the focused and intimate environment of its inhabitants.

The articulation of the entry COLA allows for a strong visual identity for the school, whilst maximising visibility to the public domain.

The public domain to the front of the school is articulated in the landscape design and is arranged to accommodate the functional requirements surrounding the main entry.

The facade of the hall facing Farmland Drive is small in scale and is not considered a 'large blank facade'. The facade is broken up with materiality

The Farmland drive curtilage to the Hall houses the site substation and Pump room for authority access. The locations of these services is limited due to the current extent of Farmland drive and minimal street frontage.

The opportunity for the hall to engage with the street has been opened up to the 'Plaza' whereby the active frontage of the school to the adjacent community parklands provides an engaging and welcoming interface.



Artist Impression: View from Farmland Drive frontage looking towards Hall (left), covered entry and Administrative building (right)



Artist Impression: View from car park entry frontage looking towards Hall.



Artist Impression: View from Farmland Drive frontage looking towards Hall.

1.2

ITEM 2 - ESD

SUBMISSION QUERY:

Detail is lacking on the architectural drawings of how ESD strategies will be incorporated including ‘building as a learning tool’ proposals.

SUBMISSION RESPONSE:

The following diagrams showcase the ESD initiatives the Alex Avenue Public School project are undertaking in a graphic sense and is supported by the project Greenstar Pathway and ESD Report.

ESD measures undertaken to minimise consumption of resources, water and energy include:

Resources

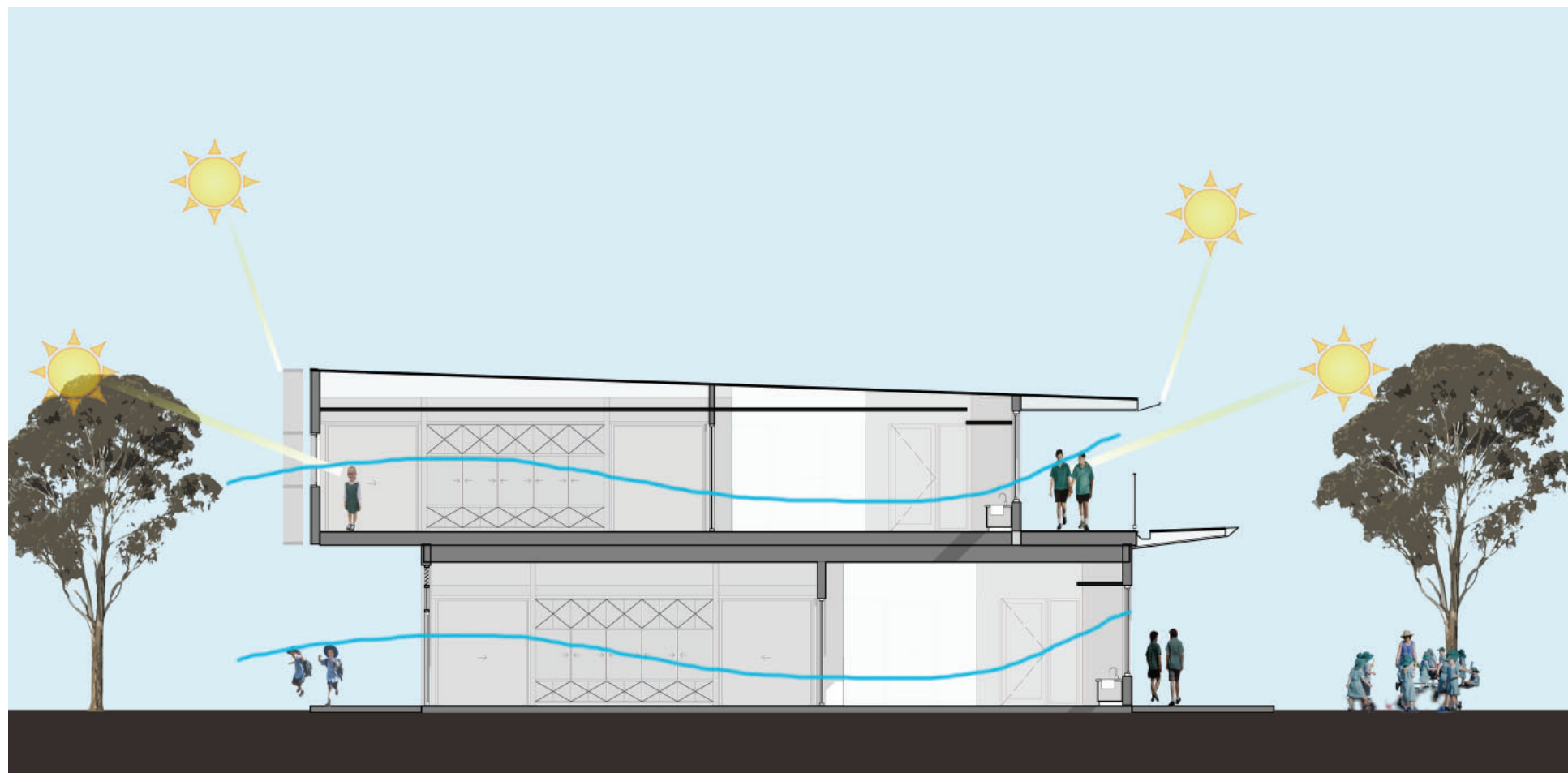
- Use of certified/best practice materials for steel, timber and permanent formwork
- Consideration of characteristics including durability, recycled content, location, embodied carbon and toxicity where feasible for other materials selection such as plasterboard, AFS or FSC certified timber and concrete with supplementary cementitious materials.

Energy

- building envelope performance – efficient building fabric and glazing selection to reduce thermal comfort demands
- effective control strategies
- reduction in peak demand and grid electricity consumption through onsite renewable energy generation

Water

- Rainwater harvesting for use in irrigation and toilet flushing, to reduce use of drinking water in non-potable applications.
- Selection of high efficiency fittings and fixtures to reduce operational consumption of potable water.
- Air cooled heat rejection system has been designed for the new development.
- Implement water sensitive urban design (WSUD) initiatives to improve the water quality of stormwater and reduce peak flow and runoff
- Plant species selected for the site will be native or have a low irrigation demand.



SUBMISSION RESPONSE (ESD: VENTILATION):

The modular design maximises cross-flow ventilation through:

- reducing building depths from 19.6m (Hayball Concept Design) to 16.0m (Current Detailed Design) through a layering of spaces and shading creating pressure differentials that generate natural ventilation.
- Operable windows are well placed to allow cooling breezes to flow through all learning spaces.
- On days where minimum wind driven ventilation is available, we have designed for a Hybrid (Mixed Mode) Ventilation whereby the airflow is provided through purposely installed openings in the building envelope supplemented, when necessary, by mechanical systems (ceiling fans and outside air intakes)
- The area of available natural ventilation openings to each habitable space exceeds the minimum requirements of the NCC-BCA (5% of floor area)

1.3 ITEM 3 - COLA CONSTRUCTION

SUBMISSION QUERY:

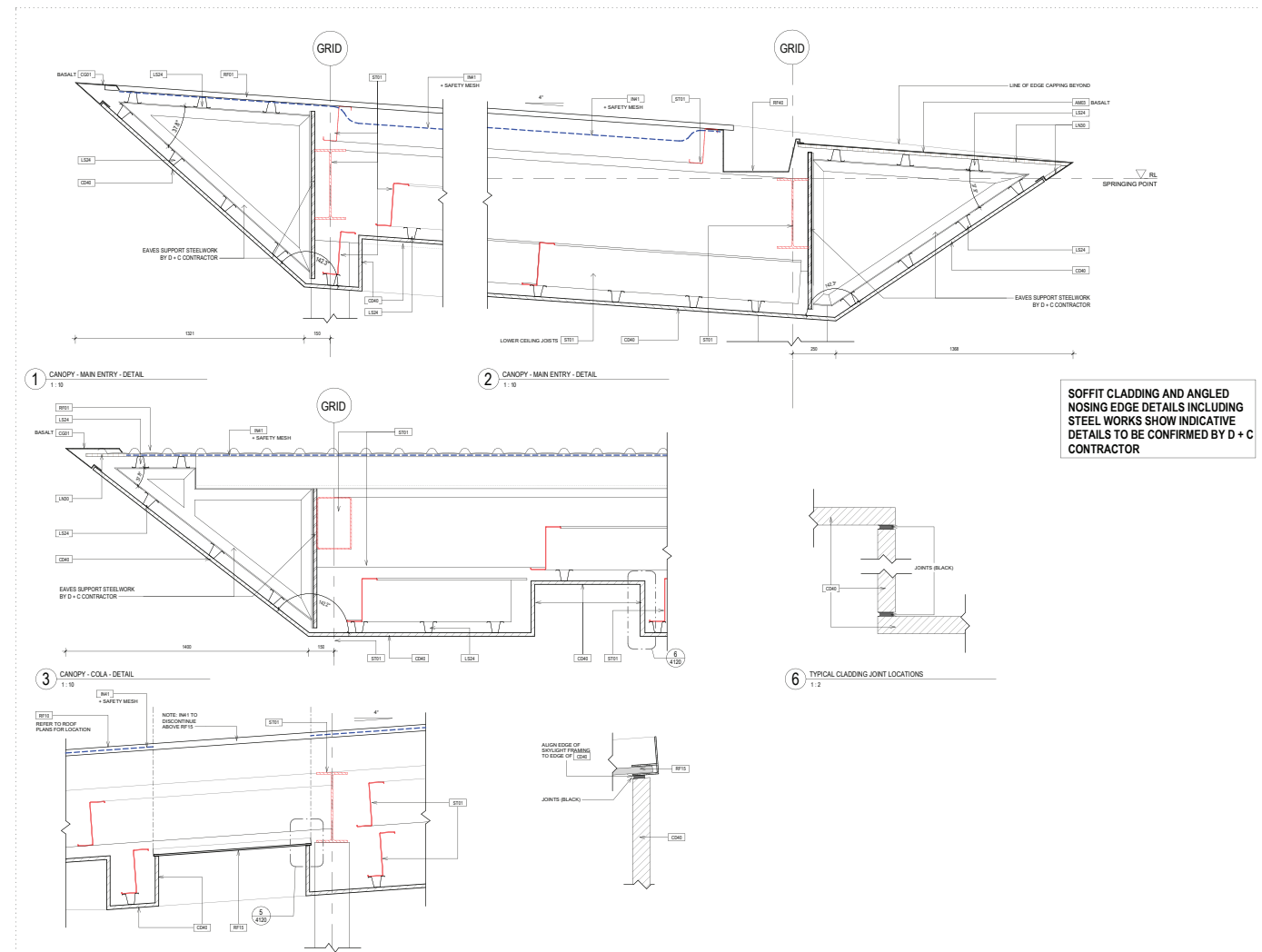
The COLA structures and walkway eaves as illustrated lack construction credibility. Construction details, particularly through the edge condition should be provided.

SUBMISSION RESPONSE:

The COLA structures are reinforced concrete frames, consisting of steel screw piles founded in siltstone with reinforced concrete pile caps, reinforced concrete columns and beams with reinforced concrete first floor slabs. Lateral stability of the COLA concrete frame structure is provided by frame action.

The COLA roofs are steel framed structures, consisting of steel rafters, steel purlins and steel columns. All steel sections are ‘open’ sections except for the steel columns, which are “closed” SHS members. Lateral stability of the COLA steel framed roof structures is provided by steel portal frame action.

The edge condition of the COLA roofs are made up of fully welded angles at required centres, fixed back to the structural steel. The cladding and soffit lining are supported via a top hat subframe and plywood substrate.



COLA edge detailed design drawings

1.4 ITEM 4 - ABORIGINAL CULTURE & HERITAGE

SUBMISSION QUERY:

The scheme does not demonstrate a response to Aboriginal culture and heritage either in the landscape or architectural approach.

SUBMISSION RESPONSE:

There will be future consultation with the Aboriginal Education Consultative group (AECG) to ensure that any specific relevance or connection that the site has to the Darug People is integrated into the landscape and learning environment.

The response to aboriginal culture and heritage prior to meeting with the AECG has been explored with the PRG in great detail. Generally, the exterior building fabric is comprised of silvers, golds and greys reminiscent of the natural landscapes and caves in the area

GroupGSA has explored the use of Aboriginal Art patterns and paintings as inspiration for the landscape, play areas and interior designs of the buildings. Adjacent are samples of the finishes boards where the selection of materials and finishes internally is based around the story of the aboriginal heritage from the point of view of colour selections.

The landscape and material designs weave reference points throughout, meaning becomes deep seated, an integral part of the design language, a solution that moves beyond clichéd, stereotypical or potentially patronising references. The current landscape design allows for yarning circles and ‘bush’ meeting places utilising logs and rock formations

The AECG will be consulted to ensure that a tangible connection to community is at the core of the project.



Homebase interior scheme



Hall interior scheme



Library interior scheme



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