Appendix G21
Disability Access Report

Environmental Impact Statement

for Alterations and Additions to

St Philip's Christian College, Cessnock

lindsay perry access

Disability Access Report

St Philips Christian College Cessnock

10 Lomas Lane
NULKABA NSW

For: St Philips Christian Education Foundation
Ref: LP_21048

Executive Summary

State Significant Development Application documentation for the St Philip Christian College Cessnock located at 10 Lomas Lane Nulkaba, has been reviewed against current accessibility legislation.

The site provides the opportunity to maximise accessibility and inclusion being relatively level. The buildings have been designed to accommodate accessibility requirements and the pedestrian network throughout the site will afford access to all areas.

We consider that the drawings presented for assessment, for the purposes of a development application, generally comply with current statutory requirements.

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Document Control

This report has been prepared based on the documentation available and time allocated to conduct the review. All reasonable attempts have been made to identify key compliance matters. Best practice options, as noted in the report, are not mandatory but will minimise the risk of a complaint made under the DDA.

Revision Summary:

prepared by:		
Lindsay Perry	Draft Revision 1	30 November 2021 28 January 2022

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Clarifications:

This report is limited to items within drawings listed in this report only.

Construction is to be in accordance with the recommendations made in this access report to ensure compliance.

Any dimensions quoted throughout this report and within Australian Standards are CLEAR dimensions, not structural. This needs to be considered during construction to account for wall linings and the like.

The recommendations throughout this report reflect the professional opinion and interpretation of Lindsay Perry Access Pty Ltd. This may differ from that of other consultants.

1. Project Background

The proposed development is a State Significant Development Application for a major expansion to SPCC Cessnock. The scope of works includes: road upgrades to Lomas Lane including a bus bay; road upgrades and access at Wine Country Drive; extension to the junior school building; two new buildings for middle school; extension of the existing senior school building to include a new chapel and two new senior school buildings; new building for administration and welcome centre; extension to staff and hospitality building; extension to sports hall and performing arts centre building; a new Pre School and Early Learning Centre 'Narnia'; and an indoor aquatic centre that will service the school and public.

It is expected that student numbers will be increased to 1732 (including early learning centre).

Figure 1 | Proposed Development

The Cessnock campus caters to Junior, Middle & Senior students, and an Activate Centre, and will endeavour to deliver Narnia Early Learning, Young Mothers, Dynamic Alternative Learning Environment (DALE) and an aquatic centre.

The St Philip's Christian College Cessnock campus will respond to the ever-changing needs of students & teachers, as well as the technologies and educational principles of the school. The result is an inspiring place where young people can grow, collaborate, and contribute for the 'whole of their lives'.

2. Reviewed Documentation

State Significant Development Application documentation package (Revision F dated 23 November 2021) prepared by SHAC has been reviewed in the preparation for this access report.

3. Council Requirements

Cessnock City Council Development Control Plan 2010 (DCP) is applicable to his development. Section C.6 Access and Mobility

The objectives of the DCP (6.1.3 Objectives) with respect to access for people with disabilities is as follows:

- To provide guidelines for access both to, and within, buildings and public spaces for people who have a disability.
- To assist in better design of buildings and spaces so as to meet the access needs of all members of the community.
- Increase community awareness of mobility handicaps affecting certain sections of the community and of the need for barrier-free design in the built environment.
- To ensure that new development is accessible by all people in the Cessnock Local Government Area, including those people with disabilities, to facilitate their full and independent participation in community life.
- To ensure compliance with relevant Australian Standards for Access and Mobility (eg. as required by the Building Code of Australia) and thereby minimise the risk of exposure to discrimination of building users, Council and building owners.
- To provide intending developers with clear guidance as to the legal requirements and Council policy for access and mobility.

The DCP includes two primary Design Elements that group performance criteria and design requirements to assist applicants in addressing access issues from the perspective of people with a disability.

The Design Elements include:

1. Parking, access routes and entrances to buildings: provide accessible parking or set-down areas, continuous accessible paths of travel to and from the building or facility.
2. Interior circulation and facilities: provide unimpeded circulation throughout the building or facility, and ease of use of, facilities and amenities within the building or facility.

Each of these design elements have been met within the proposed development as demonstrated throughout this access report

4. Legislation

Access assessment has been made against Access Legislation including:

Access assessment has been made against Access Legislation including:

- The Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)
- Disability (Access to Premises (Buildings)) Standards 2010
- Access Code for Buildings 2010
- The National Construction Code Building Code of Australia Volume 1, Amendment 1 2019 (BCA)
  - Section D2.14 / D2.15 / D2.17 – landings, thresholds and slip resistance
  - Section D3 – Access for People with Disabilities
  - Section E3.6 – Passenger Lifts
  - Section F2.4 – Accessible Sanitary Facilities
- Australian Standard AS1428.1 (2009) Amendment 1 & 2, – Design for Access and Mobility
- Australian Standard AS1428.2(1992) – Design for Access and Mobility: Enhanced and additional requirements – Buildings and facilities
- Australian Standard AS1428.4.1 (2009) Amendment 1 – Design for Access and Mobility: Means to assist the orientation of people with vision impairment – Tactile ground surface indicators
- Australian Standard AS2890.6 (2009) – Parking Facilities – Off street carparking For People with Disabilities.
- Australian Standard AS1735.12 – Lifts, escalators and moving walks: Lifts for persons with a disability

A summary of the requirements of relevant legislation follows.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992

The DDA requires independent, equitable, dignified access to all parts of the building for all building users regardless of disability. The DDA makes it unlawful to discriminate against a person on the grounds of disability.

The Disability (Access to Premises) Standards

The Disability (Access to Premises - buildings) Standards 2010 (the Premises Standards) commenced on 1 May 2011. Any application for a building approval for a new building or upgrade of an existing building on or after that date triggers the application of the Premises Standards.

The Premises Standards include an Access Code written in the same style as the Building Code of Australia. It has a number of Performance Requirements that are expressed in broad terms and references a number of technical Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions.

The National Construction Code / Building Code of Australia (Volume 1)

The Building Code of Australia (BCA) is contained within the National Construction Code (NCC) and provides the minimum necessary requirements for safety, health, amenity and sustainability in the design and construction of new buildings (and

new building work in existing buildings) throughout Australia. The BCA is a performance-based code and compliance can be met through satisfying the deemed-to-satisfy provisions or by meeting the prescribed performance requirements.

The BCA for Class 9b buildings requires access for people with disabilities to and within all areas usually used by the occupants. For theatres and the like, access is required to wheelchair seating spaces provided in accordance with D3.9. Access need not be provided to every tier / platform within an auditorium.

AS1428 – Design for Access and Mobility

- Australian Standard AS1428.1 (2009) Amendment 1 & 2, – Design for Access and Mobility contains access requirements that are mandatory for the provision of access for persons with a disability and is referred by the BCA
- Australian Standard AS1428.2(1992) – Design for Access and Mobility: Enhanced and additional requirements – Buildings and facilities provides enhanced and best practice requirements that will minimize DDA risk
- Australian Standard AS1428.4.1 (2009) Amendment 1 – Design for Access and Mobility: Means to assist the orientation of people with vision impairment – Tactile ground surface indicators

AS2890.6 – Off-street Carparking for People with Disabilities

AS2890.6 (2009) applies to the carparking areas generally.

AS1735– Lifts, escalators and moving walks

AS1735.12 (1992) contains requirements for passenger lifts for persons with a disability.

5. Access and Approach | External Areas

The approach to the buildings within the SPCC Cessnock site needs to be considered when considering access for persons with a disability. The BCA has three requirements for the approach to the building for persons with a disability.

An accessible path of travel is required to the building entrance from the allotment boundary at the main points of pedestrian entry, from accessible carparking areas and from any adjacent and associated accessible building.

In this instance, the approach to the building has been considered as follows:

- from the allotment boundary at the pedestrian entrance along Wine Country Drive and Lomas Lane to the building entrances
- from the accessible carparking and kiss-and-ride areas to the building entrances
- between the buildings on the site

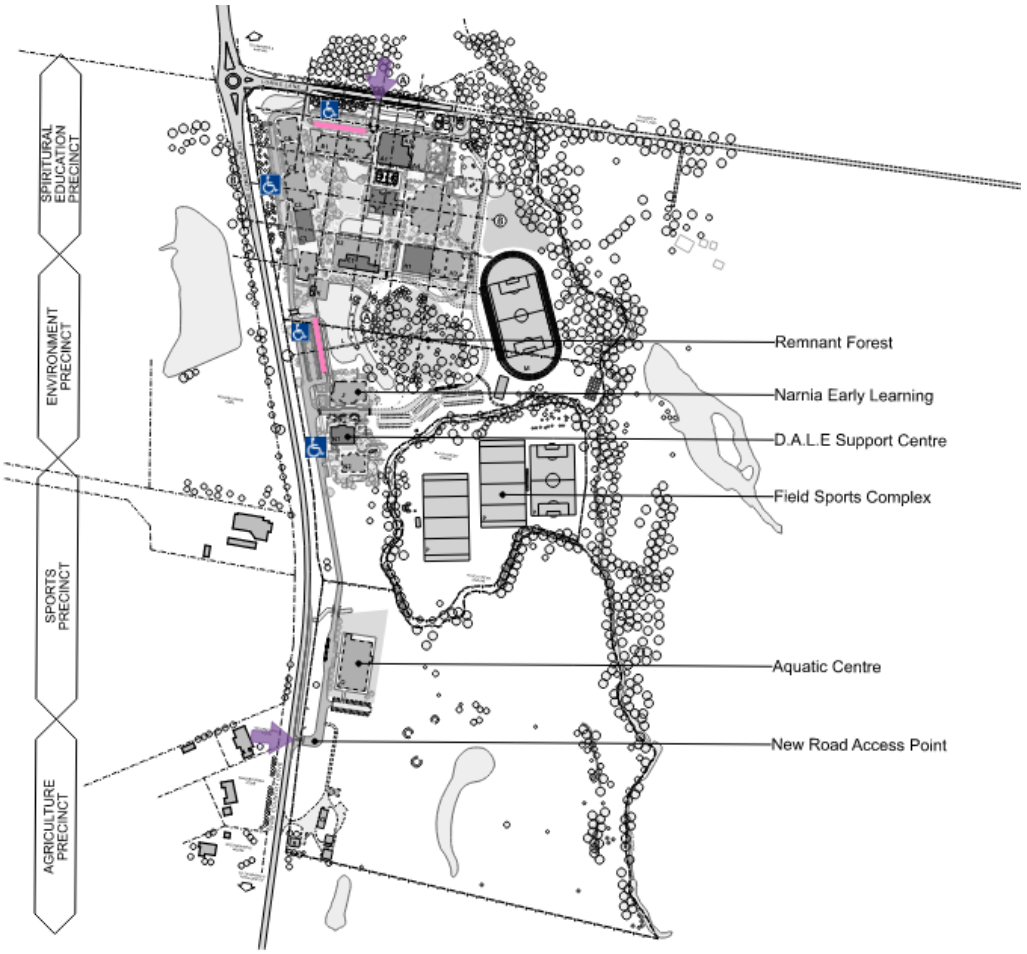

Figure 2 | Overall Site Plan

St Philip's Christian College, Cessnock Campus is a long, linear, rural site. The school campus is located to the north, only consuming a small portion of the land, with open, vast land extending across the rest of the site.

5.1 Approach from Allotment Boundary

The BCA requires that a continuous accessible path of travel be provided from the allotment boundary at the main points of pedestrian entry to the main entrance.

Compliance Summary:

Capable of compliance

Commentary:

The main pedestrian entrance to the site is from Lomas Lane. The site is relatively levels and conducive to the provision of an accessible path of travel to all buildings. The pedestrian network from Lomas Lane extends to all buildings within the site.

5.2 Approach from Accessible Carparking

The BCA requires that a continuous accessible path of travel be provided from the accessible carparking areas to the main entrance.

Compliance Summary:

Capable of compliance

Commentary:

Accessible carparking is available within each of the carparking areas across the site. The pedestrian network from the carparking areas extends to all buildings within the site.

5.3 Approach between Associated Buildings

The BCA requires that a continuous accessible path of travel be provided between associated accessible buildings.

Compliance Summary:

Capable of compliance

Commentary:

The pedestrian network from the carparking areas extends to all buildings within the site. The site is relatively levels and conducive to the provision of an accessible path of travel to all buildings.

5.4 Accessways (Pathways Generally)

The accessible path of travel refers to a pathway which is grade restricted and provides wheelchair access as per the requirements of AS1428.

Compliance Summary:

Capable of compliance

Commentary:

The pedestrian network from the carparking areas extends to all buildings within the site. The site is relatively levels and conducive to the provision of an accessible path of travel to all buildings.

Accessibility Requirements:
For compliance with AS1428.1, the following access requirements apply.

a. The minimum unobstructed width of all pathways is to be 1000mm (AS1428.1, Clause 6.3). A width of 1200mm is preferred for compliance with AS1428.2.

b. All pathways are to be constructed with no lip or step at joints between abutting surfaces (a construction tolerance of 3mm is allowable, or 5mm for bevelling edges).

c. The maximum allowable crossfall of pathways is to be 1:40.

d. The ground abutting the sides of the pathways should follow the grade of the pathway and extend horizontally for 600mm. We note that this is not required where there is a kerb or handrail provided to the side of the pathway.

e. Pathways to have passing bays complying with AS1428.1 at maximum 20m intervals where a direct line of site is not available. They are required within 2m of the end of the pathway where it is not possible to continue travelling along the pathway.

   A passing space shall have a minimum width of 1800 for a minimum length of 2000mm. Refer to AS1428.1, Clause 6.4.

5.5 Accessible Carparking

There is a requirement for the provision of accessible carparking within this development.

Compliance Summary:
Capable of compliance

Commentary:
Carparking is provided within each of the carparking areas across the site and is evenly distributed. A total of six (6) accessible carparking spaces is provided from a total of two hundred and eighty-seven spaces (including ninety-eight (98) with a gravel surface). The total number of designated accessible spaces achieves BCA requirements.

Accessibility Requirements:
Access requirements for the accessible carparking are as follows.

a. Accessible carparking to be a minimum of 2400mm wide with a shared area to one side of the space 2400mm wide. Circulation space can be shared between adjacent accessible carparks.

b. Provide a bollard to the shared circulation space as illustrated in AS2890.6, Figure 2.2.

c. The maximum allowable crossfall of accessible carparking area to be, 1:33 (for outdoor spaces). This crossfall applies both parallel and perpendicular to the angle of parking.

d. For covered carparking, the clear height of the accessible carparking space to be 2500mm as illustrated in AS2890.6, Figure 2.7.

e. Designated accessible carparking is to be identified using the International Symbol for Access (ISA) between 800 and 1000mm high placed as a pavement marking in the centre of the space between 500-600mm from its entry point. The perimeter of the space is to be identified by an unbroken yellow & slip resistant line 80-100mm wide (except where there is a kerb or wall)

   Shared space to be identified using yellow slip-resistant & unbroken stipes 150 to 200mm wide with spaces 200 to 300mm between stripes. Stipes to be at an angle of 45° to the side of the space.

5.6 Pedestrian Crossings

There are marked pedestrian crossings with the carparking areas.

Compliance Summary:

To be addressed during detailed design

Commentary:

There are three (3) marked pedestrian crossings within eh carparking areas from Lomas Lane.

Accessibility Requirements:

Where kerb ramps are to be provided at the roadway to provide an accessible path of travel for persons with a disability within, they are to offer compliance with AS1428.1 (2009), clause 10.6.

Where the pedestrian crossing is at the same level as the roadway, provide tactile indicators to both sides of the roadway to alert persons with a vision impairment of the hazard. Tactile indicators to be 600-800mm deep across the width pedestrian crossing. Tactile indicators to be detectable, durable, non-slip and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour.

6. Building Specific Commentary

The following provides an overview of the accessibility status of the new buildings and buildings to be upgraded / refurbished. The intent of the design is to maximise accessibility generally and offer an inclusive environment for all users.

6.1 Junior School | Building A3 & A4

The Junior school will cater to five hundred (500) students from Kindergarten to Year 4. It includes home bases, Junior School Library and outdoor spaces focused on Discovery, Fun & Foundations. The Junior home bases will be future focused & flexible learning spaces with operable walls to provide small, medium & large group spaces.

Figure 2 | Junior School Concepts

The Junior School is proposed over two (2) levels with lift access provided. Specialised areas are located at the ground floor with general learning areas at the upper level.

Compliance Summary:

Complaint in Principle

Commentary:

The Junior School – Buildings A3 & A4 – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- An accessible ramp provides access to the building entrance from surrounding areas.
- Doorways, including the entrance, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- Corridor areas are of a width that enables wheelchair turning areas.
- The simple and linear arrangement of the central circulation spine will promote wayfinding and accessibility generally.
- Unisex accessible sanitary compartments are provided within the building.
- Ambulant toilets are indicated within male and female toilet areas.

Accessibility Requirements:

a. Ensure the provision of a unisex accessible sanitary compartment at the first-floor level for compliance with BCA requirements.

6.2 Middle School | Building B1 & B2

The Middle School will cater to five hundred (500) students from Year 5 to Year 8. It includes home bases, Middle School Library and outdoor spaces focused on Mastery and Belonging. The Middle School learning spaces will be future focused & flexible learning spaces. Learning spaces will have access to learning labs / makerspaces to tap into developed student interests, providing space to explore through real-world problems and projects.

Figure 2 | Middle School Concepts

The Middle School is proposed over two (2) levels and comprises two "wings" either side of a central amenities area. The western wing will accommodate Year 6 and Year 8 learning areas, with the eastern wing accommodating Year 5 and Year 7 areas. A lift is proposed at the eastern end of the budling to facilitate access between levels.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Middle School – Buildings B1 & B2 – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrance, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The central Practical Activities Area at each level provides circulation areas generally that are of a width that enables wheelchair turning areas.
- The simple and linear arrangement of the central circulation spine (practical activities areas) will promote wayfinding and accessibility generally.
- Unisex accessible sanitary compartments are provided at each level of the building.
- Ambulant toilets are indicated within male and female toilet areas at each level of the building.

6.3 Senior School | Buildings C2 & C3

The Senior School will cater to six hundred (600) students from Year 9 to Year 12. It includes home bases, Senior School Library and outdoor spaces focused on Excellence and Purpose. The Senior School learning spaces will promote a student-centred young adult learning environment with greater student autonomy to promotes preparing for life beyond school. Learning spaces will be flexible & adaptable to the needs of each student or group of learners. Learning spaces will have access to learning labs / makerspaces to fine tune subject of enquiry, personalised study spaces and an ability to find a place of quiet when needed.

Figure 4 | Senior School Concepts

The Senior School is proposed over two (2) levels and comprises two "wings" either side of a central entrance area. The western wing will accommodate general learning areas, arts workshops and design studios with tiered seating area and science labs. The eastern wing will accommodate general learning areas, movement, dance, drama and music studios. A lift is proposed at the eastern end of the budling (shared with to Building B4) to facilitate access between levels.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Senior School – Buildings C1 & C2 – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrance, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The central circulation spine at each level is of a width that enables wheelchair turning areas.
- The simple and linear arrangement of the central circulation spine (will promote wayfinding and accessibility generally.
- Unisex accessible sanitary compartments are provided at each bank of toilets.
- Ambulant toilets are indicated within male and female toilet areas.

6.4 Library and Staff | Building C4

The Library and Staff Building – Building C4 is provided over two levels and is located within the Senior School Province.

Figure 5 | Library and Staff Building Concepts

The ground floor accommodates the Library / Chapel area with staff areas above. Amenities are provided at each level.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Library and Staff Building – Building C3 – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrance, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- Circulation areas throughout the building enable wheelchair turning and circulation areas.
- Unisex accessible sanitary compartments are provided at each bank of toilets.
- Ambulant toilets are indicated within male and female toilet areas.

6.5 Admin & Welcome Centre Building D

The Welcome Centre is not only the public interface of the school, but the lounge room, the games room, a place to relax in comfort and dialogue whilst awaiting guidance by staff or administration.

The building provides an identifiable, yet discreet, reception area, sunken lounge area, places to sit & relax, an Exhibition Centre showcasing student or alumni work / art pieces and activity areas including slippery dip and pool table.

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Figure 6 | Welcome Centre Concepts

Designed over two levels, the building is easily accessible from the carpark area. Reception and meetings areas are provided at the ground floor level with administrative areas at the upper level. A lift facilitates access between levels of the building.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Admin and Welcome Building – Building D – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The central and direct Circulation areas at each level enable wheelchair turning and circulation areas and promote wayfinding generally.
- Unisex accessible sanitary compartments are provided at level of the building.
- Ambulant toilets are indicated within male and female toilet areas at each level.

6.6 Trade Training Centre | Building E

The Trade Training Centre has been designed over two (2) levels and accommodates trade workshop areas including automotive, construction, hospitality, metal technology and iSTEM areas with associated break-out spaces and amenities. A lift facilitates access between levels of the building.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Trade Training Centre – Building E – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The central and direct circulation areas at each level enable wheelchair turning and circulation areas and promote wayfinding generally.
- Unisex accessible sanitary compartments are provided at level of the building.
- Ambulant toilets are indicated within male and female toilet areas at each level.

Accessibility Requirements:

a. Ensure the provision of a unisex accessible sanitary compartment at each level containing sanitary facilities for compliance with BCA requirements.
b. In addition to the unisex accessible sanitary compartment provide ambulant toilets are male and female use in keeping with BCA requirements.

6.7 The Hub | Building F

The Hub – Building F – is a gathering space in the form of a cafeteria with associated facilities such as the Health Hub and Wellbeing Room. It is provided over a single level.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Trade Training Centre – Building E – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The primarily open-plan arrangement enables wheelchair turning and circulation areas and promote wayfinding generally.
- A unisex accessible sanitary compartment with accompanying ambulant toilets is provided within the building.

6.8 Performing Arts Centre | Building G

The performing arts centre is large enough to accommodate over 750 patrons, or a full sub-school with staff & parents. The space caters to the community by having the ability to host performances, church groups, conferences, presentations & seminars.

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Figure 7 | Performing Arts Centre Concepts

Designed over two main levels, being the theatre levels, the building incorporates the Black Box Theatre, backstage areas and an orchestra pit.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

The Performance Arts Centre – Building G – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. Lift access is available between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- Circulation areas at each level enable wheelchair turning and circulation areas.
- A unisex accessible sanitary compartment with accompanying ambulant toilets is provided within the building.

Accessibility Requirements:

a. Ensure the provision wheelchair seating within both the Main and Blackbox Theatres.

b. Ensure that an accessible path of travel is provide to the stage and backstage areas.

6.9 Sports Hall | Building H

A Sports Hall Building – Building H – is provided over one main level with storage areas at the lower ground floor. It provides a basketball court, stage and flexible studio spaces with change room areas.

Compliance Summary:

Capable of Compliance

Commentary:

The Sports Hall – Building H – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The general open plan arrangement enables wheelchair turning and circulation areas.
- A unisex accessible sanitary compartment with accompanying ambulant toilets is provided within the building.

Accessibility Requirements:

a. Provide a unisex accessible sanitary facility within the building to meet BCA requirements.

b. Ensure that an accessible path of travel is provide to the stage, backstage areas and Flexible Studio spaces.

6.10 Narnia | Building J

Narnia – Building J – is an Early Learning Centre that accommodated the OOSH facility. accommodates classrooms and OOSH Facility. It is provided over a single level and provides two (2) main childcare areas with outdoor play in addition to the OOSH area.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

Commentary:

Narnia – Building J – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The central circulation area accommodates the required wheelchair circulation and turning areas.
- A unisex accessible sanitary compartment with accompanying ambulant toilet is provided within the building.

Accessibility Requirements:

a. Ensure ramped access is provided for entry to the budling.

6.11 Welcome Café | Building K

The Welcome Café – Building K – is a small café with outdoor seating areas. The café areas are not publicly accessible. It is located adjacent to the Welcome Centre and reception areas.

Compliance Summary:

Compliant in Principle

6.12 DALE | Building N

The DALE Building – Building N – comprises a central hub with general learning areas. It has been designed over a single level with operable walls that creates a flexible and collaborative learning environment.

Compliance Summary:

Complaint in Principle

Commentary:

DALE – Building N – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- The central hub accommodates the required wheelchair circulation and turning areas.
- A unisex accessible sanitary compartment with accompanying ambulant toilet is provided within the building.

6.13 Aquatic Centre | Building O

The Aquatic Centre – Building O – is intended for both use by the College and the general public. It houses two (2) pools with associated change areas and sanitary facilities. Tiered seating and the Wellness Centre are provided at the upper level of the building. A lift facilitates access between levels of the Aquatic Centre.

Compliance Summary:

Complaint in Principle

Commentary:

The Aquatic Centre – Building O – is generally considered capable of compliance with current accessibility legislation as follows:

- Access is provided to and within all areas normally used by the occupants.
- Lift access facilitates access between levels.
- Doorways, including the entrances, achieve circulation areas that will facilitate independent access for people with disabilities.
- A unisex accessible sanitary compartment with accompanying ambulant toilet is provided within the building for both student and staff use.
- Ramped access is provided to each pool.

Accessibility Requirements:

a. Ensure the provision wheelchair seating within the tiered seating area.

7. General Accessibility Features | Interior Areas

The following generally accessibility features apply throughout the proposed development to ensure an inclusive and equitable environment is created for all building occupants. They should be addressed during detailed design stages to ensure compliance of the built form.

7.1 Extent of Access Generally – BCA

Access for people with disabilities is required to and within all areas normally used by the occupants. This is achieved throughout the proposed building works as outline in the preceding section of this report.

7.2 Accessible Entrances

In a building required to be accessible, an accessway must be provided through the principal pedestrian entrance, and not less than 50% of all pedestrian entrances including the principal pedestrian entrance.

The following access requirements apply to the accessible entrances.

a. Entrance to comply with AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13 as part of the accessible path of travel.

b. Doors are to have a minimum clear opening width of 850mm to comply AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13.2 as part of the accessible path of travel.

   Where double door sets are provided, one door leaf is to be capable of being held in the closed position to provide door opening widths and circulation to comply with AS 1428.1.

c. Door threshold to be level to provide seamless entry as part of the accessible path of travel. Maximum allowable construction tolerance is 3mm for compliance with AS1428.1(2009), 5mm where beveled edges are provided between surfaces.

d. Door to have hardware within the accessible height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level (AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13.5). This is not applicable to childcare centres.

e. For glass doors, provide decals to assist persons with a vision impairment. Decals to be solid and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour and be not less than 75mm high located within the height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level. Decals are to be solid per AS1428.1, Clause 6.6.

7.3 Circulation Areas

BCA (Clause D3.3) requires the provision of turning spaces and passing areas to corridors to enable wheelchair circulation throughout a building.

Turning spaces 1540mm wide by 2070mm long are required within 2m of the end of corridors to enable a wheelchair to turn through 90° and passing areas 1800mm wide by 2000mm long are required every 20m along a corridor unless there is a clear line of sight.

Within corridor areas, 1500x1500mm is required to facilitate a 90° turn by a wheelchair. This must be accommodated within accessible areas.

7.4 Doorways Generally

AS1428 has requirements for doorways within the accessible path of travel to enable independent access for people using a wheelchair. Access requirements for doorways within the accessible path of travel are as follows.

a. Doorways within the accessible path of travel to have a minimum clear opening width of 850mm (AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13.2). We recommend the use of a 920 leaf door as a minimum to achieve adequate clear width.

   For double doors, the operable leaf must achieve this clear opening width.

b. All doorways within the accessible path of travel to have complying circulation areas as illustrated in AS1428.1(2009), Figure 31. Circulation areas to have a maximum crossfall of 1:40.

c. Doorways to have minimum 30% luminance contrast as described in AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13.1.

d. Door to have hardware within the accessible height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level (AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13.5)
   This is not applicable to childcare centres.

e. Door handles and related hardware shall be able to be unlocked and opened with one hand per AS1428.1 (2009), Clause 13.5.1. The handles shall enable a person who cannot grip to operate the door without their hand slipping from the handle. We recommend the use of lever handles.

f. Doorways to external areas to achieve a level threshold as part of the accessible path of travel. Maximum allowable construction tolerance is 3mm for compliance with AS1428.1(2009), 5mm where beveled edges are provided between surfaces.

g. Doorways to have operational forces per AS1428.1 (2009), Clause 13.5.2. A maximum allowable force of 20N is required to operate the door.

7.5 Doorways within Vestibules and Air-locks

AS1428 has requirements for circulation areas between doorways within vestibules / airlocks to enable independent access for people using a wheelchair. Clause 13.4 requires a minimum dimension of 1450mm between doors. Where a doorway encroaches into the space, 1450mm plus the door leaf width is required.

7.6 Doorways within Vestibules and Air-locks to Ambulant Toilet Cubicles

AS1428 has requirements for circulation areas between doorways within vestibules / airlocks as part of the path of travel to ambulant toilet cubicles to enable independent access for people using a mobility aid. Figure 34(b) requires a minimum dimension of 900mm between doors. Where a doorway encroaches into the space, 900mm plus the door leaf width is required.

7.7 Hearing Augmentation at Service Counters

For buildings that are required to be accessible, the BCA (Clause D3.7) requires hearing augmentation systems at service counters **where the user is screened from the service provider**. We note that this may not be relevant to this project.

With the implementation of "sneeze screens" as a COVID-19 mitigation measure, the provision of hearing augmentation at service counters has become a critical accessibility issue for people with hearing impairments.

7.8 Hearing Augmentation Generally

For buildings that are required to be accessible, the BCA (Clause D3.7) requires hearing augmentation systems within auditoriums, meeting rooms and the like **where an inbuilt amplification system, other than the one used for emergency warning is installed**. The following systems can be used: an induction loop to at least 80% of the floor area; or a system requiring the use of receivers (infrared or the like) to not less than 95%.

7.9 Exempt Areas

BCA Clause D3.4 does not require access for people with disabilities to areas that would be inappropriate due to the particular use of the area or would pose a health and safety risk. This includes the path of travel to these areas.

7.10 Floor Finishes

All floor finishes are to be flush to provide an accessible path of travel throughout the different areas of the building. Maximum allowable construction tolerance is 3mm (5mm for bevelled edges) as part of the accessible path of travel. Refer to AS1428.1(2009), Clause 7.2 for further details.

7.11 Carpet

AS1428.1 has access requirements for carpet. Where carpet is used as the floor surface, pile height should not exceed 4mm. Exposed edges will be fastened to the floor surface. Carpet trims shall have a vertical face not more than 3mm high.

BCA states that clause 7.4.1(a) of AS 1428.1 does not apply and is replaced with 'the pile height or pile thickness shall not exceed **11 mm** and the carpet backing thickness shall not exceed 4 mm.

7.12 Controls

Controls such as light switches, alarm keypads, card swipes, etc are to be located within the accessible height range of 900-1100mm above the floor level and not within 500mm of an internal corner to comply with AS1428.1(2009), Clause 14.

7.13 Visual Indication to Glazing

Provide decals to all full height glazing that can be mistaken for a doorway to assist persons with a vision impairment. Decals to be solid and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour and be not less than 75mm high located within the height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level. Decals are to be solid per AS1428.1, Clause 6.6.

7.14 Tactile Indicators

For a building that is required to be accessible, tactile ground surface indicators must be provided to warn people who are blind or have a vision impairment that they are approaching a stairway (other than a fire isolated stair); an escalator; a moving walkway; a ramp (other than a fire isolated ramp, step ramp, kerb ramp or swimming pool ramp); and in the absence of a suitable barrier, an overhead obstruction less than 2m above the floor level or an accessway ,meeting a vehicular way if there is no kerb or kerb ramp (BCA D3.8).

Tactile indicators are generally required to be 600-800mm deep across the width of the hazard and set back 300mm from the edge of the hazard (refer AS1428.4.1, Figure A1). Tactile indicators to be detectable, durable, non-slip and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background color (45% for discrete tactile indicators and 60% for discrete two-tone tactile indicators).

7.15 Signage

Access requirements for signage are as follows. Note that this does not include general wayfinding signage.

a. Braille and tactile signage formats as outlined within BCA Specification D3.6 that incorporate the international symbol of access or deafness, as appropriate, in accordance with AS 1428.1 must be provided to identify the following:
   - a sanitary facility, except a sanitary facility associated with a bedroom in a Class 1b building or a sole-occupancy unit in a Class 3 or Class 9c building
   - a space with a hearing augmentation system
   - each door required by E4.5 to be provided with an exit sign and state level
   - an accessible unisex sanitary facility and identify if the facility is suitable for left or right-handed use
   - an ambulant accessible sanitary facility 1 and be located on the door of the facility
   - where a pedestrian entrance is not accessible, directional signage incorporating the international symbol of access to direct a person to the location of the nearest accessible pedestrian entrance
   - where a bank of sanitary facilities is not provided with an accessible unisex sanitary facility, directional signage incorporating the international

symbol of access must be placed at the location of the sanitary facilities that are not accessible, to direct a person to the location of the nearest accessible unisex sanitary

b. Braille and tactile components of the sign to be located not less than 1200mm and not higher than 1600mm affl.

c. Signage to be located at the latch side of the doorway with the leading edge of the sign 50-300mm from the architrave. Where this is not possible, the sign can be located on the door.

Sample signs are as follows. These are examples only – ensure selected signage complies with BCA Specification D3.6 including provision of Braille locator for multiple lines of text and characters.

7.16 Slip Resistance (Stairs & Ramps)

The BCA defines the following slip resistance requirements for stairs and ramps:

Application	Surface Conditions	
	Dry	Wet
Ramp steeper than 1:14	P4 or R11	P5 or R12
Ramp steeper than 1:20 but not steeper than 1:14	P3 or R10	P4 or R11
Tread or Landing surface	P3 or R10	P4 or R11
Nosing or landing edge strip	P3	P4

7.17 Access to Swimming Pools

The BCA requires access for persons with a disability to swimming pools with a total perimeter greater than 40m that are associated with as Class 1b, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 building that this required to be accessible (Table D3.1).

For pools required to be accessible by this clause, not less than one accessible entry / exit must be provided by means of a fixed or moveable ramp and an aquatic wheelchair; or a zero-depth entry at a maximum gradient of 1:14; or a platform swimming pool lift; or a swing style swimming pool lift.

For pools with a perimeter greater than 70m, the use of a swing stile swimming pool lift is not permitted.

7.18 Wheelchair Seating

The BCA Table D3.2 states not less than 3 wheelchair spaces for every 150 persons or part thereof (1 single space and a group of 2 spaces).

Where there are than 151 - 800 seats, a minimum of 3 spaces is required then 1 additional space for every 50 seats or part thereof (1 single space and a group of 2 spaces and not more than 5 spaces in any one group).

Where there are than 801 – 10,000 seats, a minimum of 16 spaces is required then 1 additional space for every 200 seats or part thereof (2 single spaces and 2 groups of 2 spaces and not more than 5 spaces in any one group being representative of the seating available).

AS1428.1, Clause 18.1 requires that wheelchair seating spaces be adjacent to conventional seating and distributed throughout the facility either singly or in pairs and have comparable sight lines to that of conventional seating.

Wheelchair seating is to be provided at the same level as other seating in the row. Wheelchair seating spaces should protrude 300mm to the rear of conventional seating to allow shoulder alignment between persons using a wheelchair and companions. This is achieved through the use of moveable seating for companion seating.

8 Sanitary Facilities

The BCA / Access Code for Buildings (Clause F2.4) require the provision of sanitary facilities catering for persons with a disability.

8.1 Distribution of Accessible Sanitary Facilities

The following is required to satisfy BCA requirements, noting that not all are applicable to all developments:

- A unisex accessible toilet at each level. Where more than one bank of toilets is provided at any level, at least 50% of those banks will have an accessible toilet facility.

- At each bank of toilets where there is one or more toilets in additional to an unisex accessible sanitary compartment at the bank of toilets, a sanitary compartment suitable for a person with an ambulant disability in accordance with AS1428.1 must be provided for use by males and females

- A unisex accessible shower is required where showers are required by F2.3. In this regard, BCA only requires accessible showers within hospitals, early childhood centres, theatres and sporting venues. Showers are not r*equired* within commercial, retail or industrial premises. If ***required by Clause F2.3,*** where one or more showers are provided, 1 accessible shower for every 10 or part thereof must be provided.

- One unisex accessible adult change facility must be provided in certain buildings (not required for this development).

8.2 Unisex Accessible Toilets

Access requirements for the accessible toilet facilities are as follows. These are CLEAR dimensions. Provision for wall linings needs to be considered.

a. Accessible toilet facilities to be unisex facilities for compliance with the BCA.

b. Unisex accessible facilities to comply with AS1428.1(2009), Clause 15 including set-out of fittings and fixtures, circulation areas and doorways.

c. Where more than one unisex accessible toilet is provided within the building, they should be in a mirrored configuration to allow for both left and right-handed use.

WC Pan:

d. Crucial dimensions for the toilet are 450mm from centreline of pan to side wall, 800mm from front of pan to rear wall and a seat height of 470mm.

e. A minimum clear dimension of 1400mm is required from the toilet pan to any other fixture (see figure 43).

f. Grabrails to be provided at the side and rear of the toilet in compliance with AS1428.1 at a height of 800mm.

g. Toilet seat shall be of the full round type, be securely fixed in position when in use and have fixings that create lateral stability. They should be load rated to 150kg, have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour (eg pan, wall or floor) and remain in the upright position when fully raised.

h. Provide a backrest to accessible toilets to comply with AS1428.1, Clause 15.2.4.

Basin:

i. For the basin, a minimum dimension of 425mm is required from the centreline of the basin to the side wall and height of basin to be between 800 and 830mm.

j. Taps to have lever handles, sensor plates or similar controls. For lever taps, a minimum 50mm clearance to be provided to adjacent surfaces.

Door:

k. Doorways to have a minimum clear opening width of 850mm to comply AS1428.1(2009), Clause 13.2 as part of the accessible path of travel. Adequate circulation area at the latch side of the doorway is required to allow independent access to the facility – for details refer to AS1428.1, Figure 31.

l. Door hardware to be located within the accessible height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level. The use of lever handles is encouraged to assist persons with a manual disability such as arthritis.

Controls:

m. Controls such as light switches within the accessible toilet facilities to be in the accessible height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level to comply with AS1428.1(2009), Clause 14. Controls should be located not less than 500mm to a corner.

8.3 Cubicles for People with an Ambulant Disability

Ambulant cubicles are required in addition to the unisex accessible sanitary compartment. Accessibility requirements for the ambulant toilets are as follows.

a. Options for the configuration of the ambulant cubicles are illustrated in AS1428.1, Figure 53.

b. Provide an ambulant cubicle within each bank of male and female toilets in compliance with AS1428.1, Clause 16.

c. Minimum width of ambulant cubicles to be 900-920mm.

d. Provide grabrails to ambulant cubicles to comply with AS1428.1, Clause 17 and Figure 53A.

e. Doors to have a minimum opening width of 700mm and comply with AS1428.1, Figure 53B.

f. Provide signage to the ambulant cubicles to comply with AS1428.1, Clause 16.4.

8.4 Unisex Accessible Shower Facility

An accessible shower is required within this development. Access requirements for accessible showers are as follows.

a. Accessible showers are to comply with AS 1428.1, Clause 15.5 and include accessible features such as grabrails, adjustable height shower rose and fixtures within an accessible height range.

b. Floor waste to be positioned 550mm and 580mm from enclosing shower walls as illustrated in AS1428.1 (2009), Figure 47a.

c. The minimum dimension of an accessible shower to be 1160 x 1000mm. A folding seat, at a height of 470mm is to be provided. All taps to be located within the height range of 900-1100mm above the finished floor level.

d. Circulation space in front of the shower is to be provided as illustrated in AS1428.1, Figure 47.

9 Vertical Circulation

9.1 Lifts

The following access requirements apply to the lifts. These requirements are for disabled access only and do not include requirements for stretchers.

a. Lift is to comply with AS1735.12 and be fully automatic as required by the BCA, Clause E3.6.

b. Minimum internal dimensions of the lift car to be 1100mm wide x 1400mm deep BCA, Clause E3.6 – for a lift that travels less than 12m.

c. Clear opening of the lift door to be minimum 900mm.

d. Provide a handrail complying with the provisions for a mandatory handrail in AS1735.12.

e. All lift control buttons are to be in the accessible height range of 900-1100mm affl and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour. This includes buttons within the lift car and at each public lift lobby. All buttons are to be provided with information in Braille and tactile formats.

f. Auditory / voice cues are to be provided within the lift car to assist persons with a vision impairment.

g. Series of door opening devices that will detect a 75mm diameter rod across the door opening between 50 mm and 1550mm above the floor level.

h. Emergency hands-free communication, including a button that alerts a call centre of a problem, a light to signal that the call has been received by the call centre and a light indicating assistance is being dispatched.

9.2 Stairs

Access requirements for public access stairs are as follows.

a. Stair construction to comply with AS1428.1, Clause 11.1.

b. Stairs to have closed or opaque risers. Open risers cause confusion for persons with a vision impairment and may trigger conditions such as epilepsy due to light penetrating through the open risers.

c. Where the stair intersects with an internal corridor, the stair shall be set back in accordance with AS2418.1 Figure 26C/D to allow adequate space for handrail extensions and tactile indicators.

d. Provide handrails, with extensions, to both sides of the stair (AS1428.1, Clause 11.2). Handrails to have an external diameter between 30-50mm to assist

persons with a manual disability such as arthritis. Handrails should be continuous around the landings where possible.

Handrails are required on both sides of the stair to cater for left and right-handed disabilities. A central handrail is also an acceptable solution where adequate width is available.

e. Stair nosings to have minimum 30% luminance contrast strip 50-75mm wide to the top of the stair tread to assist persons with a vision impairment. The strip can be set back 15mm from the edge of the riser.

f. Stair nosings shall not project beyond the face of the riser.

g. Provide tactile indicators at the top and bottom of the stair to comply with BCA Clause D3.8 and AS1428.4.1.

Tactile indicators to be detectable, durable, non-slip and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour. For discrete tactile indicators, 45% luminance contrast is required (60% where two-tone indicators are used).

Tactile indicators at the top and bottom of the stair to be 600-800mm deep across the width of the stair set back 300mm from the edge of the stair.

9.3 Accessible Ramps

Access requirements for accessible ramps are as follows.

a. Ramp to comply with AS1428.1, Clause 10.3. Maximum allowable gradient of the ramp is 1:14, minimum clear width to be 1000mm and maximum length between landings to be 9m (for 1:14 gradient).

b. Accessible ramp is to have a maximum rise of 3.6m (BCA Clause 3.11).

c. The ramp is required to be set back a minimum 900mm from the property boundary (AS1428.1, Clause 10.3 (f)). This allows tactile indicators and handrail extensions to occur within the boundary and not protrude into the footpath area.

d. Provide handrails, with extensions, to both sides of the ramp to comply with AS1428.1, Clause 12. Handrails to have an external diameter between 30-50mm to assist persons with a manual disability such as arthritis. Handrails are required on both sides of the ramp to cater for left and right-handed disabilities.

e. Where ramp is not enclosed, provide kerb rails in accordance with AS1428.1. The height of kerb rails is to be less than 65mm or greater than 150mm above the finished surface level. This is to ensure that the foot plate of a wheelchair cannot become lodged on the kerb rail.

f. Provide tactile indicators at the top and bottom of the ramps to comply with BCA Clause D3.8 and AS1428.4. Tactile indicators to be detectable, durable, non-slip and have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background colour. For discrete tactile indicators, 45% luminance contrast is required (60% where two-tone indicators are used).

9.4 Walkways

AS1428.1 defines a walkway as having a gradient of 1:20. For compliance, the following access requirements apply to the walkways.

a. The minimum unobstructed width of walkways is to be 1000mm (AS1428.1, Clause 6.3). A width of 1200mm is preferred for compliance with AS1428.2.

b. Walkways are to be constructed with no lip or step at joints between abutting surfaces (a construction tolerance of 3mm is allowable, 5mm for bevelled edges -refer to Figure 6 of AS1428.1).

c. The maximum allowable crossfall of a walkway is to be 1:40.

d. Surface of the walkway to be slip-resistant.

e. The ground abutting the sides of the walkway should follow the grade of the pathway and extend horizontally for 600mm. This is not required where there is a kerb or handrail provided (refer to AS1428.1 Clause 10.2).

f. Maximum allowable gradient of the walkway is 1:20 and maximum length between landings to be 15m (for 1:20 gradient). Landings to be a minimum 1200mm in length (where there is no change in direction). For changes in direction of 180º, landings to be 1540mm in length – refer to AS1428.1(2009), Clause 10.8.

9.5 Kerb Ramps

Where kerb ramps are provided to pedestrian areas within the accessible path of travel, the configuration of kerb ramps is to be in accordance with AS1428. The following access requirements apply to kerb ramps.

a. Kerb ramps to comply with AS1428(2009) Amendment 1, Clause 10.7

b. Maximum gradient of the kerb ramps to be 1:8 and maximum length to be 1520mm (providing a maximum height of 190mm).

c. Kerb ramps to have a non-slip surface as required by AS1428.

d. A tooled joint should be provided between parts of the kerb ramp to assist persons with a vision impairment with orientation.

e. Kerb ramps are to be aligned across the roadway.

10 Best Practice Measures for Consideration

We recommend a best practice approach to accessibility that goes beyond minimum standards and embraces the intent of the DDA. The following measures will promote inclusion and participation for all users.

10.1 Accessways

We recommend that the accessible path of travel be a minimum 1200mm wide to comply with AS1428.2. Wider pathways will allow easy access for more people who have a permanent disability, people with a temporary disability, people pushing prams and elderly people using walking frames and the like. This is in keeping with the principles of Universal Design.

For or a wheelchair and a pram to pass 1500mm is required and for two wheelchairs to pass requires 1800mm.

10.2 Automatic Entrance Doors

The provision of automatic sliding doorways maximizes access for people with a disability. Further, delivery drivers, people carrying parcels and the elderly also benefit from the provision of automatic doors.

Automatic doors provide safe, convenient access for everyone, regardless of age or ability in keeping with universal design principles. They also offer COVID-19 mitigation measures, reducing the transfer of germs and bacteria.

10.3 Accessible Service Counters

The provision of an accessible section of counter will benefit people using wheelchairs and people of short stature.

AS1428.2 contains access requirements for service counters and recommends the height of the counter be between 750mm(±20) and 850mm (±20) above the finished floor level and have foot and knee clearance under the counter. The minimum width of an accessible counter and clearance below is recommended as 900mm.

10.4 Luminance Contrast

Luminance contrast assists people with a vision impairment to navigate the built environment. Mandatory items that require luminance contrast are tactile indicators, accessible toilet seats and doorways as outlined in other sections of this report. The following can also be provided as a best practice measure to ensure ease of use:

- Minimum 30% luminance contrast between floors and walls or between walls and skirting boards;
- Minimum 30% luminance contrast between the ground surface and obstructions such as columns, bollards and street furniture;
- To assist people with vision impairment locate the building entrance, consider providing features with a minimum 30% luminance contrast to the background surface such as an entry mat or awning.

- Minimum 30% luminance contrast between the floor and the entrance mat (this allows people with vision impairment to locate the entrance;
- Minimum 30% luminance contrast between walls and handrails.

10.5 Visual Indication to Glazing (additional measures)

To ensure full height glazing that can be mistaken for a doorway is highlighted, we recommend the provision of a “double decal” as per international precedent. This involves the provision of two (2) decal strips that have a minimum 30% luminance contrast to each other. As such, the background colour does not need to be relied upon.

10.6 Kitchenettes

While not a statutory requirement, the provision of wheelchair accessible benches promotes inclusion. The following recommendations for the dimensioning, layout and arrangement of kitchens are offered to maximize usability for persons with a disability. Some key principles are as follows:

- The height of benches should be between 700-850mm affl noting that no height will suit all users. We recommend a height of 850mm.
- Clearance in front of the bench of 1540mm is encouraged to facilitate a 180° turn by a wheelchair
- Acceptable hardware for cupboards includes touch latches and D shaped pull handles.
- A shallow sink should be provided. Optimum bowl depth is 150mm with clearances under as per requirements for handbasins.

10.7 Workstations and Desks

Consideration should be given to the provision of accessible height workstations. Adjustable height workstations and desks promote an inclusive environment for all users and enable sit-to-stand opportunities, promoting an active workplace.

10.8 Seating

A proportion of accessible seating should be provided that offers provides back and arm rests.
A seat height of 450mm is optimal; with arms that extend a further 260mm +/- 40mm in height. · Armrests should not extend beyond the perimeter of the base or legs of the seat to ensure stability of the chair when rising with use of only one armrest.

Seats located adjacent to accessways should be set back at least 600mm to allow leg room without obstructing the adjacent path of travel.

10.9 Furniture and Joinery Hardware

The use of D-type pull handles to furniture and joinery that provide a minimum 35mm clearance between the rear face of the handle and the face of the drawer is generally recommended to promote accessibility and inclusion.

10.10 Wayfinding – Signage

Signs and symbols should be provided to inform all users. A signage system which informs all users is encouraged. The use of pictograms and directional cues is recommended as is the use of luminance contrast to ensure the message is clear and legible.

10.11 Wayfinding – Landmarks and Tactile Indicators

To assist people with vision impairment navigate their environment, the use of directional tactile indicators can be implemented, noting that their use should be minimised. The design of directional tactile indicators is site / building specific.

Additionally, landmarks such as entry features, statues, sculpture, fountains, or other unique features can be used as a means of way-finding throughout a building. This especially assists people with intellectual disabilities.

10.12 Terminology (Best-practice recommendation)

The use of positive terminology such as “accessible” should be used when referring to accessible facilities such as toilets and carparking. This term is preferable to “disabled” which is commonly used. This principle is to be adopted through the design and documentation of a project and on signage throughout the completed building.

10.13 Accessible Adult Change Facility

While not required within most developments, the provision of an accessible adult change facility promotes inclusion for all users. An Accessible Adult Change Facility is a toilet and change facility that caters for users with high support needs and their carers where they require additional space, assistance and specialised equipment to allow them to use toilets safely and comfortably. Accessible adult change facilities are based on ‘Changing Places’ that are based on a model developed in the UK.

10.14 Emergency Call Button in Sanitary Compartments

If provided, emergency call button should be located at 600+/- 20mm above the finished floor level in front of the toilet roll holder to enable ease of access for someone who has fallen off the pan. People do fall off the pan, in particular those with no or limited upper trunk control.

11 Conclusion

This report demonstrates that the fundamental aims of accessibility legislation are achievable St Phillips Christian College Cessnock. Spatial planning and general arrangements of facilities will offer inclusion for all building users.

Disability is often defined as any limitation, restriction or impairment which restricts everyday activities and has lasted or is likely to last for at least 6 months. Disabilities can be very varied. They can be physical, cognitive, intellectual, mental, sensory, or developmental. They can be present at birth or can occur during a person's lifetime. They can also be permanent or temporary. In Australia, almost one in five people – 4.3 million – have a disability with one in three having severe or profound core activity limitation.

Equity and dignity are important aspects in the provision of access to buildings for all users. With respect to people with a disability, equity and dignity are sometimes overlooked in the construction of new buildings por refurbishment works. The design approach needs to maintain a high level of equity for people with disabilities and meet the performance requirements of the BCA. The performance requirements adopt two main concepts in the provision of access for people with a disability being to the degree necessary and safe movement. Both of these concepts need to be achieved within the context of equitable and dignified access.

In this respect, a wide range of disabilities needs consideration and a compromise reached between requirements of different disability groups. Measures need to be implemented to ensure inclusion of all users, not a particular disability group in isolation.