MAN-MADE LANDSCAPING

The landscape design is to provide flexible spaces that best meet teaching, learning and play requirements. The school landscape has been built around a simple geometrical form which connects to the building entrances and allows the user to peacefully enjoy the surroundings.

The landscape space consists of geometrical shapes which creates sitting, study, and relaxation areas outside, turfed areas between blocks, mass planted areas, timber and natural sandstone seating pods and groves of tree planting. Accent and shade giving trees have been used in landscape areas to create identity to various landscape spaces and create shelter.

The large turf planes allow for the assembly of children and accommodates informal play during recess and lunch hours.

The central landscape spine throughout buildings have been designed to create a green active space at the heart of the school. There are different areas for active and passive play for various age group throughout the site in close proximity to school blocks.

The design of the outdoor play space aims to provide a functional and interesting area with a focus on natural and non-prescribed play. The outdoor play spaces feature the elements like play frames, play kitchen, working table, play bus, shop fronts, small platform stage which enables children to create ideas for various flexible play.

Garden beds with mass planting, tactile plants, pebbles etc featured throughout the play space, raised vegetable gardens are proposed to encourage gardening by the children. The landscape site has little existing vegetation. Existing trees have been taken into design consideration and retained in existing condition.

A natural bioswale proposed to guide the site stormwater to a bio-basin at the southern part of site. Bio swale have been planted with local native grasses and macrophyte plants.

FOREST REVEGETATION ZONE

The aim of this Management Zone is to revegetate and rehabilitate the area with locally indigenous, native vegetation representative of the Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) Swamp Sclerophyll Forest on Coastal Floodplains of the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions (Swamp Sclerophyll Forest). This management zone is outside of the proposed Inner Protection Area (IPA) Asset Protection Zone (APZ) and as such, should encompass a complete floristic revegetation.

Vegetation Rehabilitation

- Native revegetation efforts within this zone are to consist of a full floristic revegetation of all three major strata with locally indigenous, native nursery stock representative of the indigenous vegetation community, Swamp Sclerophyll Forest EEC
- Within areas that have been historically revegetated, Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) techniques are recommended to ensure the increased rehabilitation of the area as well as the continued suppression of environmental and priority weed species.

Threatened Fauna Habitat

- The revegetation and rehabilitation of these management zones will aim to increase the amount of foraging habitat available for both the Argynnis hyperbius (Laced Fritillary Butterfly) and Phascolarctos cinereus (Koala).
- Viola betonicifolia, the larval food plant of the Laced Fritillary Butterfly is to be incorporated into the revegetation efforts of the ground strata vegetation. This implementation will vastly increase the availability of this resource throughout the Subject Site.
• The revegetation of PKFTs, Eucalyptus tereticornis and Eucalyptus robusta will encompass the majority of the revegetation of the upper strata of Management Zone 1. This revegetation effort will increase the availability of foraging habitat for Koalas within the Subject Site.

KOALA PLAN OF MANAGEMENT
This zone is located within the eastern extent of the prescribed Asset Protection Zone (APZ) within the area of vegetation to be retained and enhanced. The aim of this management zone is to revegetate, retain and enhance the existing extent of the Swamp Sclerophyll Forest EEC. Vegetation within this zone will need to adhere to the requirements of the prescribed Asset Protection Zone in accordance with Table A2.6 of Planning for Bushfire Protection (RFS 2006).

Vegetation Rehabilitation
• Native revegetation efforts within this zone are to consist primarily of groundcover and canopy strata vegetation of locally indigenous, native nursery stock representative of the indigenous vegetation community, Swamp Sclerophyll Forest EEC.
• Proposed plantings within this zone are to be installed in such a way that will ensure compliance with the requirements of an Inner Protection Area (IPA) APZ as outlined in Table A2.6 of Planning for Bushfire Protection (RFS 2006).
• Within areas that have been historically revegetated, Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) techniques are recommended to ensure the increased rehabilitation of the area as well as the continued suppression of environmental and priority weed species. Ongoing management will be required to ensure that vegetation within this zone does not exceed the thresholds of on IPA APZ as outlined in Table A2.6 of Planning for Bushfire Protection (RFS 2006).

APZ Maintenance
• Native tree canopies to be thinned (where required) by registered tree loppers in order to prevent overlapping crowns and to provide a tree canopy cover of <15% (RFS 2006).
• Understory shrubs and saplings are to be thinned to form clumps or individuals so that they do not comprise more than 20% of the total APZ area (RFS 2006).
• No mature trees will require removal to achieve APZ compliance, however trees may have their lower limbs removed up to a height of 2m above the ground

BIO SWALE AND BASIN
This zone is located to the east of the open playground and within the prescribed Asset Protection Zone (APZ) and the area of vegetation being retained and enhanced. The aim of this feature is to create a transition between natural and man-made play spaces, while capturing surface water traveling across the site and improving drainage and usability of the open playground areas.

Surface water will be directed to the lowest portion of the site, being the south-western corner, where it will be retained to meet stormwater management objectives. The swale and basin will be supplemented with native plans suitable to the wetland environment that historically inhabited the site. This environment will enhance the ecological diversity of the site and provide an opportunity to create a frog-pond to enhance learning opportunities.

LANDSCAPE PLANS
Following are a series of landscape plans prepared by Terras Landscape Architects highlighting the detailed design associated with the man-made landscape environments and the bio-swale. The VMP and KPoM landscape environments are dictated by the VMP and KPoM reports.