

COMMUNITY UPDATE | April 2024



WHAT'S IN THIS UPDATE

Pre-Bryson Building Preparation

Bryson Building

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PRE-BRYSON BUILDING PREPARATION

David Jennings - Chief Operating Officer

Throughout 2023, preparations for the major Bryson Building Project took centre stage. Amidst this grand endeavour, numerous smaller projects were completed, paving the way for the commencement of the Bryson Building itself. These 'smaller' projects were:

- Establishing a new IT infrastructure room to re-route IT Services. This was necessary due to the impending impact of the Bryson Building's footprint on the existing routing, situated under and adjacent to Science Road.
- Setting up eight demountable classrooms beside the Sports Centre and behind the existing PDHPE classrooms, necessary to replace the classroom spaces in the old Science building.
- Constructing a new Workshop building at the rear of the Branwhite Centre, replacing Technical and Applied Science (TAS) facilities previously housed in the old TAS building.
- Establishment of a temporary canteen.
- Redirecting water, fire, sewer, IT and other services from underneath the old Science and TAS buildings to ensure they do not interfere with the Bryson Building construction.
- Demolishing the old TAS and Science buildings to make way for the new Bryson Building.

As you would understand, each of these `smaller' projects demanded significant lead time for planning, design, obtaining relevant permissions and for the construction/demolition to take place.

It is a credit to our Property and Infrastructure Department, led by Mr Mark Alexander, the Property and Infrastructure Manager, who oversaw the management of all these projects from start to finish, on top of the significant work they do in daily maintaining College property.

On behalf of the entire College community, I wish to convey my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated team of property personnel.

Bryson Building

As a result of the above works and extensive project planning and design development, we are close to commencing the tender process for this significant building.

The genesis of this project began with concept designs in 2021 before lodging a State Significant Development Project to the NSW Department of Planning in 2022. The Planning Consent (Development Application or `DA') was issued by the Department of Planning in the latter half of 2023.

Since then, we have completed the detailed design with our 17 consultants of differing disciplines providing input into their areas of expertise. In November 2023, given the size and importance of this project, the College decided to engage professional Project Managers to guide us through each stage; finalise the design, managing the tender process and oversight during the construction processes.

The firm, Mostyn Copper was the successful appointee, providing the College with valuable advice, energy and expertise, bringing us close to the stage of issuing Tender Documentation to four potential Head Contractors, which we expect to occur in early April 2024.

Following a six-week tender period, the tenders will be assessed, and our College Council will then decide who to appoint as the Head Contractor for the Bryson Building.





So, what will the Bryson Building provide us? Put simply, modern and fit-for-purpose facilities that will enhance teaching and learning. The building project will comprise the following major components:

Level 1 (Ground Floor)

- A new, expanded and modern Canteen and Café that will enable indoor seating for the Café and much more effective Canteen for the display and distribution of recess and lunch for all our Year Groups to access efficiently. It also allows the Canteen to support food and beverages for major events at the College, including those in the PA Hall.
- A new and expanded Primary Library that is in closer proximity to all the Primary Classrooms.
- Undercroft and breezeway.
- Restroom facilities.

Level 2

- The new and Expanded Secondary Library (Research Centre) which will act as a hub for research, group work and quiet study.
- Secondary classrooms.
- Secondary breakout spaces that will enable students to use them for group work, breakout sessions, Year Group meetings, other meetings, and social interaction in a weatherprotected environment during recess and lunchtime.
- Restroom facilities.
- Primary classrooms for Year 5.
- Primary breakout spaces.
- Direct access from the Primary car park.

Level 3

- Staff Common used for staff lunchtimes, staff meetings, delivering in-house professional development, and as an internal conference setting as required for College-related activities.
- Secondary staff faculty spaces.
- Secondary classrooms.
- Secondary breakout spaces.
- Restroom facilities.
- Primary classrooms for Year 6.
- Primary breakout spaces.

Level 4 (option if affordable)

- A large fitted-out space for Year Group meetings, NAPLAN delivery, examinations and large conferences.
- Balconies as breakout spaces.
- Additionally, the building will feature internal circulation via stairs and lifts.



This is an exciting project. Significant staff involvement has been integral to this project from the outset. We established a Project Control Group that met regularly, supported by other staff who were consulted in their respective areas of expertise. This included Canteen staff, Library staff, faculty staff for the staffing spaces, and teaching staff from Primary and Secondary. Additionally, student input was gathered through a student leaders focus group, and our Year 12, 2023 Design and Technology student Isabelle Gillard provided valuable input into student spaces based on internal research she conducted with our student body.

Considerable time and effort have been invested in reaching the tender phase, and we look forward to providing you with an update in the near future after the contract is awarded.

Construction is expected to take 18 months from commencement in late June 2024. Allowing for weather, other potential delays, furniture and IT fit out, we are hoping to occupy around the beginning of Term 2, 2026.

